

## **Bible Study**

### **Lesson 1**

#### **IS IT IMPORTANT, AND CAN WE KNOW?**

1. Is God pleased when His people do not know Him?

Hosea 4:1 "Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land."

(Controversy: strife, dispute, quarrel, something against)

2. What is the whole duty of man?

Ecclesiastes 12:13 "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."

3. What does it mean to "fear God?"

The Bible writers, often used a style of writing called parallelism where they would write a thought and then repeated it using different words, yet implying the same meaning.

Proverbs 1:7 "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Proverbs 9:10 "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."

Proverbs 2:5 "Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God."  
"fear of the Lord" = "knowledge of God"

4. What is the first message that we are to give in the last days?

Revelation 14:7 "Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."

(A part of the first angels message is to bring back the knowledge of God to the people.)

5. Is it important to know God?

Hosea 4:6 "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."

Hosea 6:6 "For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings."

6. Why is knowing God so important?

John 17:3 "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."

2 Peter 1:2 "Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord..."

7. What does knowing God involve?

a. Know who God is

2 Timothy 1:12 "For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

(Paul knew who God is, that is why he was able to declare Him to those who worshiped Him ignorantly: Act 17:23)

b. Know His ways/glory/character

Exodus 33:13 "Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation is thy people."

Exodus 33:18 "And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory."  
(ways = glory)

Exodus 34:6,7 "And the LORD passed by before him, and pro-claimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation."  
(God's character is here displayed as his glory.)

1 John 4:7-9 "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him."  
(know God = love God and man, because God is love)

c. Keep His commandments

Titus 1:16 "They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate."  
(Knowing God leads to obeying Him. Doctrine is not the end; it is the means to know God better, to get closer to Him. )

8. What must I do to know God intimately?

Proverbs 2:3-5 "Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding. If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God."

9. Can we know who God is? Has God revealed Himself to us in His Word?

Romans 1:20 "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse ..."

1 John 5:20 "And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life."

10. What is the only thing we can glory in?

Jeremiah 9:23,24 "Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD."

**Bible Study**  
**Lesson 2**  
**WHO IS THE GOD OF THE BIBLE?**

1. According to the Old Testament, how many Gods are there?

Deuteronomy 6:4 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD..."

Deuteronomy 4:35 "Unto thee it was shewed, that thou mightest know that the LORD he is God; there is none else beside him."

Jeremiah 10:10 "But the LORD is the true God, he is the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation." (see Question 6)

2. According to the New Testament, how many Gods are there?

1 Corinthians 8:4 "As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one."

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

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

James 2:19 "Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble."

3. Who is the most qualified person to tell us about the true God?

John 1:18 "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him."

John 3:11 "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness."

4. According to Jesus—

a. Who is "the only true God"?

John 17:3 "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."

b. Whom did Jesus say we should pray to?

Matthew 6:9-13 "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen."

c. Which is the first commandment of all?

Mark 12:28-32 “And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all? And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he:”

Knowing God is required before we can love Him. A correct knowledge of God is vital for our relationship with Him. The scribe agreed that there is only one God, and none other but He.

d. Did Jesus correct the scribe?

Mark 12:34 “And when Jesus saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art not far from the kingdom of God. And no man after that durst ask him any question.”  
(The belief of the scribe reflected the faith of the entire Jewish nation. The Jews believed in one God only.)

John 8:41 “Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.”

e. Who is the God of the Jews?

John 8:54 “Jesus answered, If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your God: ...” (see Romans 3:29)

f. Who will the true worshippers worship?

John 4:21-23 “Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.”

5. According to the apostles, who is the one 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.”

James 3:9 “Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.”

Romans 15:6 “That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

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

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

6. Who is the living and true God?

1 Thessalonians 1:9, 10 “For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.”

## **Bible Study**

### **Lesson 3**

#### **THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD THE FATHER**

What does the Bible have to say about the sovereignty of the Father?

Here are some facts about God the Father that will shed some light on this topic.

1. The Father is the ultimate Source of all things.

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.”

2 Corinthians 5:18 “And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;...”

Romans 11:36 “For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.”

Ephesians 3:14,15 “For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,...”

2. The Father is the God of Christ.

a. During the Incarnation

Matthew 27:46 “And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”

b. After His Resurrection

John 20:17 “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.”

Ephesians 1:3 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: ...”

Revelation 3:12 “Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.”

(see Hebrews 1:9, 1 Peter 1:3)

3. The Father is exclusively called the Most High ...

Compare the following two verses:

Psalms 78:17 “And they sinned yet more against him by provoking the most High in the wilderness.”

Isaiah 63:8-10 “For he said, Surely they are my people, children that will not lie: so he was their Saviour. In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old. But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them.”

God the Father is the subject of these verses. Two Beings are mentioned, God the Father (who is called “their Saviour”) and Christ (who is called “the angel of his presence”). ... While Jesus is called the “Son of the Most High.”

Mark 5:7 “And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not.”

Luke 8:28 “When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not.”

The above verses clearly distinguish between the Father and the Son. The Father is called “the Most High,” while Jesus is called the “Son of the most high God.”

4. The Father is older than Jesus.

John 14:28 “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.”

The word “greater” in the above text comes from (G3187 “μείζων” meizon) which can mean “older” as translated in Romans 9:12, “It was said unto her, the elder shall serve the younger.”

5. The Father is greater than all.

John 10:29 “My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father’s hand.”

6. The Father is the head of Christ.

1 Corinthians 11:3 “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.”

7. The Father is above all.

Ephesians 4:4-6 “There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

8. The Father is the Lord of heaven and earth.

Matthew 11:25 “At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.” (See Luke 10:21)

Not only that, but the Bible also reveals to us some things which Jesus received from His Father which sheds a bit more light on the sovereignty of God the Father.

9. What did Jesus receive from His Father?

a. His life

John 5:26 “For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;...”

b. His power and authority

Matthew 28:18 “And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.” (see Matthew 11:27; John 5:22-27; 17:2)

c. His kingdom

Daniel 7:14 “And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.”

Luke 1:32 “He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: ...” (see also 1 Corinthians 15:24-28; Ephesians 1:22)

d. His right to receive worship

John 5:22-23 "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him." (see Acts 2:36; Philippians 2:9-10; Hebrews 1:6)

e. His name

Philippians 2:9-10 "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;..."

Hebrews 1:4 "Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they."

f. All things

John 3:35 "The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.

John 13:3 "Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God; ..." (see Hebrews 1:2)

The above verses are ample evidence to prove to us the sovereignty of God the Father. But, by this, we do not diminish the position, value or divinity of Jesus, the Son of God. (For further information on the equality of the Father and the Son, please refer to Lesson 5.)

**Bible Study**  
**Lesson 4**  
**WHO IS JESUS?**

1. Who did Jesus claim to be?

John 10:36 "Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?"

2. What did God the Father say regarding the identity of Jesus?

Matthew 3:16, 17 "And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 17:5 "While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him."

3. Who did the disciples understand Jesus to be?

Matthew 16:15, 16 "He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."

John 11:27 "She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world."

Matthew 14:33 "Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God."

Acts 9:20 "And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God."

4. Did the fallen angels know that Jesus was the Son of God?

Luke 4:3 "And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread."

Luke 8:28 "When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not."

Mark 5:7 "And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not." Satan and the fallen angels knew before their fall that Jesus was the Son of God, hence Satan's challenge in the wilderness and the demon's confession.

5. Who else is referred to as the "son of God" in the Scriptures?

Luke 3:38 "Which was the son of Enos, which was the son of Seth, which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God."

Adam was the son of God by creation (Genesis 5:1), as also were the angels ( Job 38:7).

1 John 3:1 "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not."

We are sons of God by adoption (Romans 8:15).

6. How is Christ the Son of God?



1 John 4:9 "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him."

Jesus is not a son by creation, as Adam was; nor a son by adoption, like us; but He is the only begotten Son; He is the Son because He was begotten of the Father.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

God giving His only begotten Son indicates that God must have had a Son, before the Incarnation, to give.

7. When did Jesus become the Son of man?

Galatians 4:4 "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law."

Luke 1:31 "And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS."

Jesus became the Son of man when He was brought forth of Mary; at the Incarnation.

8. When was Christ begotten of the Father?

Micah 5:2 "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."

"Goings forth" also means "origin." Jesus was brought forth in the days of antiquity, or from everlasting (margin: the days of eternity).

9. What happened in the days of eternity?

Proverbs 8:22-30 "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 waters 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."

In the above passage, speaking under the title of wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:24, 30; Colossians 2:3), Jesus points the reader to the duration, before the creation of anything, as the time when He was "brought forth" or "possessed" by the Father.

10. Was Jesus referred to as the 'Son of God' before Bethlehem?

Proverbs 30:4 "Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and what is his son's name, if thou canst tell?"

Daniel 3:25 "He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."

Psalms 2:12 "Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him."

11. During the Incarnation, did Jesus teach that He came forth from the Father?

John 8:42 "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 16:27 "For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God."

12. Is it important for us to believe that Jesus is the real and literal Son of God?

1 John 2:22, 23 "Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: (but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also."

1 John 5:10, 11 "He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son."

John 3:36 "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

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

13. Why did the Jews kill Christ?

Matthew 26:63-65 "But Jesus held his peace. And the high priest answered and said unto him, I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God. Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven. Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying, He hath spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witnesses? behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy."

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

Jesus preferred to die than to deny His true Sonship! How much more should we mere mortals confess the Sonship of Jesus?

14. What is promised to those who receive Jesus as the Son of God?

John 1:12 "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."

**Bible Study**  
**Lesson 5**  
**EQUALITY OF THE FATHER AND THE SON**

We have established that Jesus is the Son of God because He was begotten/brought forth from the Father in the days of eternity.

1. Are the Father and the Son equal?

Philippians 2:6 “Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:...”

In this lesson we will search the Scriptures to see if God reveals to us the basis of this equality. Why are the Father and the Son equal?

2. What did Jesus inherit by virtue of His divine Birth?

Hebrews 1:4 “Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.”

Exodus 23:20, 21 “Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name is in him.”

Jesus, as the Son of God, inherited His Father’s name. We also know that Jesus, who was the Angel that went before the Israelites, had the Father’s name back then.

Hence, we conclude that Jesus inherited the Father’s name before Bethlehem, which means that Jesus’ Sonship predates the Incarnation.

3. What does “name” mean?

Nature: “Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.” Genesis 5:2

Authority: “I am come in my Father’s name.” John 5:43 (see John 10:25; Matthew 21:23)

Character: “A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.” Proverbs 22:1 (see Ecclesiastes 7:1; Proverbs 15:30)

By inheriting the Father’s name, Jesus inherited the Father’s God-nature or divine nature.

4. What does this fact make Christ?

Hebrews 1:1-3 “God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 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; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, 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.”

Christ is the express image of the Father. He has the same divine nature and life as His Father has. His sonship and inheritance qualified Jesus to be:

- a. Owner—“heir of all things”
- b. Creator—“by whom also he made the worlds”
- c. Image of and equal with God—“the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person”
- d. Sustainer—“upholding all things”
- e. Saviour—“himself purged our sins”
- f. Mediator—“sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high”

5. Does the Bible reveal to us that Christ was the image of God before the

Incarnation?

Revelation 12:7 "And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels."

"Michael" means "one who is like God." Again this confirms the fact that Jesus inherited this name in the days of eternity.

6. What else did Christ inherit?

John 5:26 "For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself."

The very same life that the Father has, was given to His Son by inheritance. This is immortal, original life that the Son can give to those who believe ( John 17:2).

7. Does this make Jesus, a divine Being, worthy of our praise and worship?

Hebrews 1:8, 6 "But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. And again, when he bringeth in the first begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him."

Colossians 2:9; 1:19 "For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell."

The fullness of the Godhead, or divinity, dwells in the Son. He is fully divine because His Father is God.

8. Should we honor the Son as we honor the Father?

John 5:23 "That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him."

We honor and worship the Son as much as the Father. They are both of the same divine nature. We pay supreme honor to God when we honor and reverence His Son (Philippians 2:11).

9. Did the Jews understand that Jesus claimed equality with the Father?

John 5:18 "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."

10. Why did the Jews want to stone Jesus?

John 10:33-36 "The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God. Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods? If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the Scripture cannot be broken; Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?"

By claiming to be the Son of God, the Jews understood Jesus to mean that He is equal with God. Jesus also understood that. Jesus' equality with the Father is based on His Sonship.

**Bible Study**  
**Lesson 6**  
**HOLY SPIRIT—PART 1: GOD’S SPIRIT/MAN’S SPIRIT**

1. In what image was man made?

Genesis 1:26 “And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness:...”

2. Who was God talking to? Is there another divine Being in the image of God?

The Bible describes Christ as the only divine being in God’s image.

2 Corinthians 4:4 “In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.”

Philippians 2:6 “Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:...”

Colossians 1:15 “Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:...”

Hebrews 1:4 “Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.”

Unless the Bible reveals to us another divine Being in the image and likeness of God, we must conclude that, in Genesis 1:26, God the Father was talking to His Son.

3. What does the term “image” and “likeness” entail?

Genesis 5:3 “And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth”

We see here that Seth was in the likeness and image of Adam. That includes physical and spiritual aspect.

4. What is man (living soul) made of?

Genesis 2:7 “And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.” human body + human spirit = living human being

5. If man was made in the image of God, and man has two aspects, a spirit and a body, does that mean that God and Christ have a spirit and a bodily form?

a. Does God have a bodily form?

•Prophets saw God:

–Jeremiah

1 Kings 22:19 “And he said, 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.”

– Isaiah

Isaiah 6:1 “In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.”

(Also Daniel [Daniel 7:9, 13] and John [Revelation 4:2, 3] saw God)

•Christ was in the form of God before the Incarnation:

Philippians 2:6 “Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:...”

- Jesus said that His Father has a form which no man has seen:

John 6:46 "Not that any man hath seen the Father, save he which is of God, he hath seen the Father." (see also John 5:37)

- We will see God:

Matthew 5:8 "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."

b. Does God have a spirit?

Father:

John 4:24 "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." (see also Matthew 10:20)

Jesus:

1 Corinthians 15:45 "And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit." (see also Philipians 1:19)

Divine Body/Form + Divine Spirit = Divine Being

6. Are there any parallels between "man and his spirit" and "God and His spirit?"

1 Corinthians 2:11 "For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God." ("even so" means "in like manner")

The above text tells us that "what man's spirit is to man" is the same as "what God's spirit is to God." Yet the text marks out a very important difference. While the spirit of man is "in him," the spirit of God is not limited to the bodily form of God.

7. What does the spirit of man refer to?

- Mind—Daniel 2:1 "And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him." (Obviously Nebuchadnezzar could not sleep because he was thinking of the dream he had. In other words, his mind was troubled.)

- Heart—Psalms 34:18 "The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit." (see also Psalms 51:10, 17; 77:6; 78:8; Ezekiel 36:26)

- Life/breath—Job 27:3 "All the while my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils;..." (Isaiah 38:16; see also Job 27:3; Revelation 11:11)

The spirit of man is the personality, character and life of the man. It is one's own person.

8. How does the Bible explain God's Spirit?

- Mind—compare Isaiah 40:13 with Paul's quote in Romans 11:34.

Isaiah 40:13 "Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counsellor hath taught him?"

Romans 11:34 "For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor?" (see also 1 Corinthians 2:16)

- Life—John 6:63 "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."

Romans 8:10 "And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness."

(see also Genesis 2:7; Job 27:3; 33:4; Revelation 11:11) Just like the relation between man and his spirit, so is the relation between God and His spirit. The spirit of God is His own personality, character, life and thoughts.

9. If the spirit of man is none other than his own presence/person, then can we say that the spirit of God is His own presence?

Psalm 139:7 "Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?"

Psalm 51:11 "Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me."

Conclusion: God has a bodily form and has a spiritual presence. His spirit is not limited to His body. In the same way that your spirit is your own person, mind, and presence so is God's spirit His own person, mind, presence.

## **Bible Study**

### **Lesson 7**

#### **HOLY SPIRIT – PART 2: IDENTITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

In the previous lesson we established that God's spirit is His own mind, life, presence and person. In this lesson we want to see where the Spirit proceeds from and the identity of the Spirit.

1. What did Jesus promise before He left?

John 14:16, 17, 26 "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. ... 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."

2. According to the Bible, whose spirit is the "Holy Spirit?" Compare the following two verses:

Mark 13:11 "But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost." Matthew records it as follows:

Matthew 10:19, 20 "But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you."

Holy Spirit = Spirit of the Father

Also compare the following two verses:

2 Peter 1:21 "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

While in his first letter talking about the same thing, Peter says:

1 Peter 1:10,11 "Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow."

Holy Spirit = Spirit of Christ

According to the previous four verses, we can safely conclude:

Spirit of Christ = Holy Spirit = Spirit of your Father

3. How many holy spirits are there?

Ephesians 4:4 "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling." (See also 1 Corinthians 6:17; 12:13; Ephesians 2:18)

4. When we receive the Holy Spirit who do we receive?

John 14:23 "Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him."

According to Jesus, when we receive the Holy Spirit, we receive both, the Father and the Son.

5. Do the Father and the Son possess the same Spirit/life?

Romans 8:9, 10 "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness."



In this verse, while talking about the same spirit, Paul uses the following terminologies: Spirit, Spirit of God, Spirit of Christ, Christ. This tells us Paul believed that the Holy Spirit is the Spirit/ Life of both, the Father and the Son.

6. Where does the Spirit come from?

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:..."

7. Why does the Spirit proceed from the Father?

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."

Romans 11:36 "For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen."

The Spirit (life of God) proceeds from the Father, because all things are of Him. He is the source of all things. (Please see Lesson 3 for further information.)

8. Through whom does this spirit come to us?

Ephesians 2:18 "For through him [Jesus] we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father."

John 20:22 "And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:..."

The Spirit of the Father comes to us through Jesus, and through Him, it returns.

9. Who comes to us to be our Comforter?

John 14:18, 19 "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."

10. How does the Father send Jesus to us? Is it Jesus in flesh or in Spirit?

Galatians 4:6 "And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father."

Note: Paul tells us in Galatians that when we receive the Spirit of Jesus, we cry "Abba Father." Yet, he also tells us in Romans 8:15 that when we receive the Spirit we cry "Abba, Father." This is another confirmation that the Holy Spirit is none other than the spirit of Jesus. Also compare Galatians 4:6 with Acts 3:26

11. When we receive the Spirit of Jesus, is that someone different to Christ?

2 Corinthians 3:17 "Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."

Paul told us, in 1 Corinthians 8:6, that there is one Lord, Jesus Christ, and in Ephesians 4:4, that there is one spirit. Yet Paul tells us in the above verse, that "the Lord is that Spirit." If the Lord is Jesus and there is one spirit, then it is only logical and scriptural to believe that the Holy Spirit is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ in spirit form. Jesus Himself comes to us as a personal Comforter. The Spirit is the person of Jesus.

12. Does the Bible tell us that Jesus became a spirit?

1 Corinthians 15:45 "And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit."

13. Why does the Bible sometimes say that when the Comforter comes both the Father and the Son will come, while in other places it says Jesus is that Spirit?

2 Corinthians 5:19 "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself,..."

John 14:10, 20 "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. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you."

14. Who is it that knocks on the door of our heart?

Revelation 3:20 "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."

15. What is the hope of Glory?

Colossians 1:27 "To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:..."

## **Bible Study**

### **Lesson 8**

#### **THE FATHER AND SON IN THE SANCTUARY**

1. Where can we look to study and learn more about God's way? The Bible tells us that God's way is in the sanctuary:

Psalms 77:13 "Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God?"

What does the sanctuary have to say about the Godhead? How many Beings does the sanctuary and its services reveal to us?

2. How many stages does the sanctuary service entail?

The sanctuary service entailed three stages the courtyard, the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. We will look at the three stages independently to see what we can learn from them. I. The Most Holy Place:

a. What lessons can we learn from the Most Holy Place in regards to the Godhead?

God gave strict instructions that only one being, other than Himself, is allowed to enter the Holy of Holies.

1. Jesus, our High Priest: Only the high priest was allowed to enter into the Most Holy Place (Hebrews 9:6, 7). Jesus is our heavenly High Priest (Hebrews 4:14; 5:10; 6:20).

2. God the Father on the throne: God's presence dwelt on top of the mercy seat -(Exodus 25:21, 22; Psalms 80:1). God the Father is the One sitting on the throne in the heavenly sanctuary (Revelation 4:2; 5:1-6).

3. Jesus presents our prayers to the Father: Only one being, the high priest, was able to take the incense in before the presence of God on the Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16:11-13). The incense represents the prayers of the saints mingled with Christ's righteousness (Psalms 141:2, Revelation 5:8; 8:3). It is Christ who receives our prayers and presents them to His Father mingled with His merit and righteousness.

b. How many divine Beings does the Most Holy Place present us with? And who are They?

A simple study of the Most Holy Place in the earthly sanctuary presents us with only two divine Beings, the Father and the Son, represented by the earthly high priest and God's presence on the throne. II. The Holy Place:

a. What lessons can we learn from the earthly Holy Place in regards to the Godhead?

1. Jesus is our heavenly Priest/High Priest: The priests or the high priest who officiated in the first apartment is a symbol or type of Christ, our High Priest.

2. God's presence in the Holy Place: The Bible also tells us that in the earthly sanctuary God manifested His glory in both apartments.

Exodus 33:9-11 "And it came to pass, as Moses entered into the tabernacle, the cloudy pillar descended, and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the LORD talked with Moses. And all the people saw the cloudy pillar stand at the tabernacle door: and all the people rose up and worshipped, every man in his tent door. And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle." (See also Exodus 29:42-44; 30:36; 40:34, 35; 1Kings 8:10, 11; 2 Chronicles 5:13, 14; 7:1, 2.)

In Exodus 33:9-11, we have the example of the presence of two living beings—Moses, the Mediator, and God. Of course we know that Moses represents Jesus, the only Mediator between God and man (1 Timothy 2:5). Hence, this example points forward to the presence of both—Jesus, our Mediator and High Priest, and God the Father in the first apartment of the heavenly sanctuary.

3. Table of Showbread: The Table of Showbread had two rows of bread on it, six in each row (Leviticus 24: 5, 6). These two rows represented the Father and the Son; here is why:

- Two Crowns: The Table of Showbread had two crowns or a double crown on it (Exodus 25:23-25). Why two?
- Jesus is the Bread: The bread represents Jesus (John 6:51). But Jesus said “I and my Father are one” (John 10:30). Hence, the bread could represent the Father as well. That is why God instructed the priest to place the bread in two stacks (not 1 or 3), representing the Father and the Son, on a table, which had two crowns (not 1 or 3).
- Jesus shares the Father’s throne: Revelation 3:21 tells us that Jesus shares His Father’s throne; hence, there are two divine Beings on the throne.
- The Table of Shewbread with the two stacks on it is a fit representation of the Father and Son’s presence in the first apartment of the heavenly sanctuary in which Jesus fulfilled His ministration in the Holy Place.

b. How many divine Beings does the earthly Holy Place present us with? And Who are They?

A study of the earthly Holy Place proves the presence of only two Beings: Jesus, the Mediator/Priest, and God the Father. Again only two living Beings, not three.

c. What about the Holy Spirit? Is it present in the Holy Place?

In the Holy Place there are impersonal and inanimate elements that represent the Holy Spirit, such as the oil used to light the candle stick. But the point is, that nowhere do we see a third living being representing the Holy Spirit. The spirit is there, yes, but not bodily like the Father and the Son. The oil is a symbol of the spirit, yet the oil is used in the Holy Place to produce light, which is a symbol of Jesus (John 8:12, 9:5). II. The courtyard:

a. What lessons can we learn from the courtyard in regards to the Godhead?

The service in the courtyard involved three living beings:

1. Jesus is the Sacrifice: The sacrifice, whether a lamb or a bullock, etc. (Leviticus 4:3), represented Jesus, the Son of God (John 1:26, 39).
2. We are the sinners: The sinner, who slew the sacrifice with his own hands (Leviticus 4:4) represented the sinner who confesses his sins and offers up spiritual sacrifices (1 Peter 2:5).
3. Jesus is the anointed Priest: The anointed priest took the blood into the sanctuary (Leviticus 4:5). This also represents Jesus, our High Priest. (Hebrews 4:14; 5:10; 6:20)

b. How many divine Beings does the courtyard service present us with?

These were the only living beings that were involved in the courtyard service. We only see one divine Being.

c. What do the other priests represent?

Of course, more than one priest officiated in the courtyard as well as in the Holy Place. These priests can represent one of two options:

1. a type of Christ

2. all the saints (The Bible calls the followers of Jesus a “royal priesthood” (1Peter 2:9). They represent the people working in cooperation with Divinity.) Regardless which one you believe to be the correct one, the point still stands, there is no living being representing the Holy Spirit.

d. What about the Holy Spirit, is it represented in the courtyard?

Again we see in the courtyard some representations of the Holy Spirit, but they are impersonal and inanimate unlike the representations for Jesus. For example:

1. fire on the altar of burnt offering—In Acts 2:3, we see the Spirit poured out in the appearance of cloven tongues of fire.

2. water in the laver—In the New Testament, water has been used to represent the Spirit (see John 4:14; 7:38, 39; Revelation 22:1).

But the point still stands, nowhere do we see the Spirit represented as a living being like the Father and the Son.

e. What is one of the roles of the high priest in the courtyard that relates to Jesus’ work on Earth?

It is important to note that one of the roles or duties of the high priest was to teach the people (Ezekiel 44:23), which of course took place outside the tabernacle since none other than the priests could enter therein. In other words, the priest was not only to minister in the sanctuary before God, he was also to go out and teach the people.

The fascinating thing is that the priests were to change their garments before going out to the people. They had to put on a different garment (or outfit) than the one they wore in the presence of God.

Ezekiel 44:19 “And when they go forth into the utter court, even into the utter court to the people, they shall put off their garments wherein they ministered, and lay them in the holy chambers, and they shall put on other garments; and they shall not sanctify the people with their garments.”

It is here where I believe the type gives us a very interesting and illuminating insight. One of the duties of Christ, our High Priest, is to teach the people outside the sanctuary. Not only that, but according to the type, He is to wear a different outfit, or He is to appear in “another form,” different than while in the presence of God. And that is exactly what Christ is doing. While Jesus ministers in the sanctuary above in His physical or bodily form, He is still—by His Spirit—the minister of the church on Earth. (Galatians 4:6). Jesus Has promised to be with us always, and never leave us or forsake us (Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 13:5). The Bible tells us that Jesus was with His followers “working with them” (Mark 16:20).

As you can see, the earthly sanctuary presents us with only two divine Beings: the Father and the Son. There is no room for a third living being in the sanctuary. In addition to that, the sanctuary service teaches us that to fulfil the type, Jesus has to do what the priest did, namely: go out and teach the people, which He does through His own spirit, the Holy Spirit. The apostles understood that, hence Paul’s declaration that Jesus is the Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 3:17, 1 Corinthians 8:6; also please refer to Lesson 7 for further information.)



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