

## Spirit and Truth

**Mark 12:24** And Jesus answering said unto them, Do ye not therefore err, because ye know not the scriptures, neither the power of God?

Two dimensions of experience that Jesus identified ... spirit AND truth.

**John 4:24** God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

The SPIRIT part is centered around the baptism of the Holy Ghost ...

**John 4:14** But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

The TRUTH part is centered around the revelation that God is One ...

**John 4:10** Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

**Mark 12:29** And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:

### **WE CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT TRUTH!**

The setting is Mount Sinai, and Moses has been up on the mountain for 40 days receiving commandments and instructions from the Lord about how the people of Israel should serve Him. But the people got tired of waiting to hear from God, so they created a golden calf – their own idea of God – and they cast off all restraints, basically designing their own comfortable religion. Needless to say, God was not happy about it!

**Exodus 33:1-4 (KJV)** And the Lord said unto Moses, Depart, and go up hence, thou and the people which thou hast brought up out of the land of Egypt, unto the land which I swore unto Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, Unto thy seed will I give it: [2] And I will send an angel before thee; and I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite: [3] Unto a land flowing with milk and honey: for I will not go up in the midst of thee; for thou art a stiffnecked people: lest I consume thee in the way. [4] And when the people heard these evil tidings, they mourned: and no man did put on him his ornaments.

God said, “I will send my angel with you and keep my promises to you. I will let you prosper and even give you some victories along the way. But I will not go with you, because you have rejected my way and replaced it with your own way.”

There's nothing wrong with angels – they represent the power of God! Over 230 times in Scripture we find angels carrying out their work; they were present at every crisis in history. There are “ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands” (Revelation 5:11), or “an innumerable company” of angels (Hebrews 12:22) - we cannot comprehend their number.

In the OT, an angel ministered to Hagar and Ishmael when they were cast out, three angels brought God's promise to Abraham and Sarah, two angels rescued Lot out of Sodom, an angel called to Abraham to spare Isaac, an angel gave Moses the revelation of God's name, angels present at giving of Law, an angel warned Balaam of his disobedience, an angel destroyed 70,000 Israelites when David disobeyed, an angel strengthened Elijah, an angel slew 185,000 Assyrians, an angel preserved Daniel in the lions den, an angel preserved the three Hebrew boys in the fiery furnace

In the Life of Christ, angels announced His birth to Mary, Joseph and the shepherds, angels ministered to Him in His temptation, angels ascended and descended upon Him in His ministry (John 1:51 - Jesus was the ladder!), an angel strengthened Him as He prayed in Gethsemane, an angel rolled the stone away from His tomb, two angels stood guard after His resurrection, two angels spoke to the disciples at His ascension (“Why stand ye gazing up into Heaven?”)

In the Early Church, an angel opened prison doors to release the apostles, an angel sent Philip to the desert to witness, an angel told Cornelius to send for Peter, an angel rescued Peter out of prison, an angel killed Herod for his pride, an angel stood by Paul in a storm

But an angel is just an angel. A service is just a service. A sermon is just a sermon. A preacher is just a preacher. A song is just a song. A prayer is just a prayer. A miracle is just a miracle. **BUT GOD ... HE IS GOD!**

Moses went immediately to the Tent of Meeting to talk with God. He was determined that, whatever else happened, they were not going to move forward one step unless God's PRESENCE went with them!

**Exodus 33:15 (KJV)** And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence.

**Exodus 33:18 (KJV)** And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory.

God, if you don't go with us, we're not moving! It seems that every other church has learned how to have services, songs and sermons without you anywhere near the place. But we want to be different ... we're willing to be different. We have seen glimpses, felt touches, experienced moments of your presence ... and we can't go on without it!

**NOTHING WILL DO BUT HAVING GOD IN OUR MIDST!**

**All In Him** (by George Farrow)

The mighty God is Jesus, the Prince of Peace is He  
The Everlasting Father, the King Eternally  
The Wonderful in wisdom by whom all things were made  
The fullness of the Godhead in Jesus is displayed

Emmanuel God with us, Jehovah Lord of hosts  
The omnipresent Spirit Who fills the universe  
Our Advocate and High Priest, the Lamb for sinners slain  
The Author of redemption, oh glory to His name

The Alpha and Omega, Beginning and the End  
The Living Word incarnate, the helpless sinner's friend  
Our wisdom and perfection, our righteousness and power  
Yea, all we need in Jesus we find this very hour

Our God for whom we've waited will be the glad refrain  
Of Israel recreated when Jesus comes again  
Lo, He will come and save us, our King and Priest to be  
For in Him dwells all fullness and Lord of All is He

*It's all in Him, it's all in Him*  
*The fullness of the Godhead is all in Him*  
*It's all in Him, it's all in Him*  
*The Mighty God is Jesus and it's all in Him*

The Godhead is NOT a mystery! The only mystery is GODLINESS – how this great God could condescend to save human beings like us!

**1 Timothy 3:16** And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

GOD TOOK ON A NATURE THAT HE HAD NEVER HAD SO WE COULD TAKE ON A NATURE THAT WE HAD NEVER HAD! THAT'S WHY JESUS CHRIST HAD TO BE BOTH GOD AND MAN.

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

EVERY OTHER BIBLICAL TRUTH GROWS OUT OF THE REVELATION THAT THERE IS ONE GOD! If there is only one God who created us, then He basically owns us! If there is only one God who sets the boundaries of fellowship with Himself, then we must obey what He says. If there is only one God who has all power, then He alone deserves our worship!

"A Glass of Lemonade"

The illustration here is to make plain the dual nature of Christ. The Lemon represents the one true God, which is a Spirit, the deity, the divinity, the Father. The Water represents the man or humanity of Christ, the Son.

We hope you will not be satisfied with a single reading, but that you will study it carefully and look up all Scripture references given, making sure you are getting all the writer is trying to convey.

- | Two Natures in One Person   | Two Ingredients in One Drink   |
|---|--|
| 1. The Father is in the Son, and the Son is in the Father. John 14:11.  | The lemon is in the water, and the water is in the lemon.  |
| 2. But the Father is not the Son and the Son is not the Father. John 8:29.  | But the lemon is not the water, and the water is not the lemon.  |
| 3. Yet, the Father is greater than the Son. John 14:28.   | Yet, the lemon is greater than the water.  |
| 4. And still the Father and the Son are one (Christ). Jn. 10:30.  | And still the lemon and the water are one (drink).   |
| 5. The Father is invisible. Jn. 1:18.   | The lemon is invisible.  |
| 6. But he that hath seen the Son hath seen the Father. Jn. 14:9.  | But he that hath seen the water hath seen the lemon.   |
| 7. The Father without the Son is a consuming fire. Heb. 12:18,29.   | The lemon without the water is too fiery to drink.   |
| 8. But the Son is a mediator between us and the Father. 1 Tim. 2:5.   | But the water is a mediator between us and the lemon.  |
| 9. The Father gave this Christ His name, "Jesus." Phil. 2:9,10.   | The lemon gave this drink its name, "Lemonade."  |
| 10. What is the name of this Father and Son? "Jesus." Prov. 30:4 and Jn. 5:43.  | What is the name of this lemon and water? "Lemonade."  |
| 11. Who is a liar, but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ, (the Father and the Son)? 1 Jn. 2:22.  | Who is a liar, but he that denieth Lemonade is this drink (lemon and water)?   |
| 12. He is antichrist that denieth the Father and the Son. 1 Jn. 2:22.   | He is without this drink that refuseth the lemon and the water.  |
| 13. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father, but he that acknowledgeth the Son, the same hath the Father also. 1 Jn. 2:23.  | Whosoever refuseth the water, the same hath not the lemon, but he that accepts the water, hath the lemon also.   |
| 14. Whosoever transgresseth, and sbideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that sbideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. 2 John 9th verse. | Whosoever turneth away, and refuseth the substance of this drink hath not the lemon. He that receiveth the substance of this drink, hath both the lemon and the water. |
| 15. O taste and see that the Lord is good! Psa. 34:8.   | O taste and see that this drink is good!   |

**WE CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT TRUTH!  
BUT WE ALSO CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT SPIRIT!**

**John 4:24** God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

God is a SPIRIT – capital “S” – but to worship him we must use our spirit – small “s” – WORSHIP HIM IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH!

**WE NEED TO KNOW TRUTH, BUT WE NEED TO FEEL SPIRIT!**

**Genesis 4:26** And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the Lord.

Life was going on as usual ... and then, at some point, for some reason, men and women began to call out to God. Without any of the tools, methods, techniques, music, or understanding we currently use to get in touch with God, people got a revelation that God was not just their Creator. Somehow, through some kind of trouble – we don't know what – they found out that if you are in trouble and you call on the Lord, He will answer you! He will intervene in your situation! And the only way He will do this is if you call on Him!

The first people in the Bible who were called God's people were not called Christians or Jews. The first people who ever belonged to God were called “those who call on the name of the Lord.” The origin and root of everything we are doing today began with people calling on God.

Forget North American Christianity! Forget the religion you were raised in! Forget what you've learned by hanging around a Pentecostal church! There's some meat there, but there's a lot of bones as well. This original episode is the benchmark, the plumbline, the pattern for a relationship with God – CALL ON ME AND I WILL ANSWER YOU! When you don't know what to do, I'll tell you what to do! When you're ready to throw up your hands, throw them up to Me and call on Me – and I will help you! That is how religion began ... and God has never changed!

Look at the patriarchs in the Old Testament ... Abraham built an altar and called on the name of the Lord (Genesis 12:7). Isaac built an altar and called on the name of the Lord (Genesis 26:25). Jacob built an altar and called on the name of the Lord (Genesis 35:7). Long before Moses was given the pattern for the tabernacle, the Ten Commandments, the law, or the Old Testament pattern of worship, men and women were calling on the name of the Lord!

This became the distinguishing mark of God's people everywhere. That's why Moses, in his great sermon in the book of Deuteronomy, said this:

**Deut. 4:7** For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the Lord our God is in all things that we call upon him for?

Other nations might have had better weapons of warfare, but they didn't have what Israel had – a God who heard them when they called!

**Psalms 18:3** I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.

**Psalms 55:16** As for me, I will call upon God; and the Lord shall save me.

**Psalms 86:5** For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.

**Psalms 86:7** In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee: for thou wilt answer me.

**Psalms 116:2** Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.

**Psalms 118:5** I called upon the Lord in distress: the Lord answered me, and set me in a large place.  
Have you discovered it yet? God draws near to you when you call on Him! You may be in the worst trouble you can imagine; you may have messed up in your life; you may have backslidden in your relationship with God ... but the moment you call Him, He's right there!

**Psalms 145:18** The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.

**Isaiah 55:6** Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

No wonder this has become Satan's entire strategy to deceive the human race for 6000 years – don't call, don't cry! Be clever, be organized, plan a lot, depend on talent and technology, but don't call! The devil is not the least bit afraid of our best human efforts, but what he really gets scared of is when we lift up our hands, our hearts and our voices to call on the name of the Lord.

It has always been the sign of God's people that they call on the Lord and He answers. But all bets are off if we don't call on the Lord! There's not a promise in the Bible that works if we don't call on the Lord!

This was the way the Old Testament prophets operated – remember Elijah and the prophets of the false god Baal? Not only does it matter THAT you call, it matters WHO you call on! What proved that God was God? The fact that He answered when Elijah called!

**1 Kings 18:24** And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.

David was a man way ahead of his time; it was like his heart was in the New Testament, but his body was stuck in the Old Testament! He was a man after God's own heart. Here is what he said:

**Psalms 4:3** But know that the Lord hath set apart him that is godly for himself: the Lord will hear when I call unto him.

Who are the godly? Those who call on the name of the Lord! David said, "You can do anything you want to me. Fight against me. Talk about me. Persecute me. But when I call on my God, look out! Because my God hears me when I call!" Who are the ungodly? The very definition of evil doers in the Bible is those who DON'T call on the name of the Lord!

**Psalms 50:15** And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.

God wants "fresh praise" from our lives, and He gets that when we call upon Him in our times of trouble. Have you ever noticed that, when we start to backslide and forget to call on the Lord, He tends to send us more trouble so we can see just how smart we really are? Trouble is one of God's greatest servants; it reminds us how much we need the Lord.

HERE IS THE BIBLE'S DEFINITION OF REVIVAL:

**Psalms 80:18** So will not we go back from thee: **quicken us, and we will call upon thy name.**

If we're not calling on the name of the Lord, it's not revival – no matter what else we're doing! Revival happens when we get sick of the status quo and CALL! The Holy Spirit IS the spirit of prayer – when we have Him in our hearts, we will call on the name of the Lord continuously! Prayer is better caught than taught! Revival is better caught than taught! Evangelism is better caught than taught! We have to call on the Lord! God will not adapt Himself to our culture, our customs or our comfort zone. We still have to call on the name of the Lord!

THE CHURCH WAS BORN IN A PRAYER MEETING! Why? Because God will never change! Because He still wants us to call on His name!

Does it bother anyone that the church was born in a prayer meeting, and today prayer meeting is the worst attended service in most churches – if they even have a prayer meeting?!

We have parents who get all upset because they don't allow prayer in schools, but they never bring their kids to prayer meeting at church! They didn't have prayer in first century Roman schools – but the church called on the name of the Lord! The political figures of the first century were more corrupt than anything you can imagine today, and yet you don't see Paul wringing his hands in worry – the church just called on the Lord! How can anything stop God's purpose when the church calls on Him?!

You know why we blame all these external situations for our problems? Because we are trying to divert attention from our weak prayer lives! There is no worry about the world in the pages of the New Testament – the church was commissioned to CHANGE the world! How can anything stop God when His people let Him loose in His church?

God is not interested in our excuses; all He wants to know is, "Are you going to continue the long line of people calling on the name of God?" Do you long to see God let loose in His church? Do you love the presence of God? If not, why would God ever let you go to Heaven? That's all there is in Heaven! If you don't crave the presence of God, it doesn't matter what doctrine you believe, you are not a New Testament Christian!

**Acts 2:42** And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

The New Testament Christians did all of this by instinct; if we don't have the same inborn instincts, we may be a club but we're not a church! God's people call on the name of the Lord! If we are to build the church God wants to have in Fredericton, it's "Holy Ghost or bust!"

Our mistake is that we TALK about our problems to each other when we should PRAY about them to God! CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD!

In Peter's message on Pentecost, he summed up the last days with one verse (and then defined "call on the name of the Lord" in Acts 2:38):

**Acts 2:21** And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

**Acts 22:16** And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.