

THE WORD AND THE SPIRIT



THE SONS OF GOD



❖ John 1:11-13

❖ Acts 3:12; 4:4

❖ Galatians 4:4-6

❖ Romans 8:1, 9-11, 14

❖ Acts 2:37-39

❖ Romans 8:14-21

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: (John 1:12)

In Paul's epistles to the Galatians and Romans, the themes of adoption and inheritance are prominent, particularly in Galatians 4 and Romans 8:14-25.

SONS

- ❖ *huios*—a male offspring (Galatians 4:6, 7)
- ❖ *tekna*—children, from *teknon*, a child, male or female, a descendent (Galatians 4:19, 27, 28, 31; Romans 8:16; John 1:12; Ephesians 5:8; 1 Peter 1:14; Acts 2:39; 1 John 2:1)

❖ Romans 8:14–17

❖ Galatians 3:26

❖ Phoebe—Romans 16:1

❖ Priscilla—Acts 18:2

❖ Mary—Romans 16:6

❖ Tryphena, Tryphosa, Persis—Romans 16:12

❖ Galatians 4:6—Spirit

❖ Romans 8:1—Walk after the Spirit

The nature of the Holy Spirit is a mystery. Men cannot explain it, because the Lord has not revealed it to them. Men having fanciful views may bring together passages of Scripture and put a human construction on them; but the acceptance of these views will not strengthen the church. Regarding such mysteries, which are too deep for human understanding, silence is golden. (*AA 52.1*)

The office of the Holy Spirit is distinctly specified in the words of Christ: “When He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.” John 16:8. (*Ibid. 52.2*)

Evil had been accumulating for centuries, and could only be restrained and resisted by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Godhead, who would come with no modified energy, but in the fulness of divine power. **Another spirit** must be met; for the essence of evil was working in all ways, and the submission of man to this satanic captivity was amazing. (*SpTA*₁₀ 25.2)

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Today, as in Christ’s day, Satan rules the minds of many.
(*SpTA10* 25.2, 26.1)

The spirit of Satan works through wicked men to carry on his schemes for the ruin of souls. (*MYP* 85.2)

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. (1 Corinthians 2:11)

For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the
gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of
you always in my prayers; (Roman 1:9)

If we do not co-operate with the heavenly agencies, Satan will take possession of the heart, and will make it his abiding place. The only defense against evil is the indwelling of Christ in the heart through faith in His righteousness.

(DA 324.1)

GODHEAD

- ❖ Romans 1:20—*theios*—divine, deity
- ❖ Acts 17:29—*theios*
- ❖ Colossians 2:9—*thēōtēs*—divinity
- ❖ ***theós*** [God, god], ***theótēs*** [divinity], ***átheos*** [without God], ***theodídaktos*** [taught by God], ***theíos*** [divine], ***theiótēs*** [divinity]

❖ GODHEAD

- ❖ 1. Godship; deity; divinity; divine nature or essence; applied to the true God, and to heathen deities.

❖ GODSHIP

- ❖ Deity; divinity; the rank or character of a god.

If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts
unto your children: how much more shall *your*
heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask
him? (Luke 11:13)

For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words
of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by
measure *unto him*. (John 3:34)

Christ could say, “I seek not Mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent Me.” John 5:30. To Him it is declared, “Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even Thy God, hath anointed Thee with the oil of gladness above Thy fellows.” Hebrews 1:9. The Father “giveth not the Spirit by measure unto Him.” (*DA* 180.1)

So with the followers of Christ. We can receive of heaven's light only as we are willing to be **emptied of self**. We cannot discern the character of God, or accept Christ by faith, unless we **consent to the bringing into captivity of every thought to the obedience of Christ. To all who do this the Holy Spirit is given without measure.** In Christ "dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily, and in Him ye are made full." Colossians 2:9, 10, R. V. (*DA 181.1*)

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

And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: (Acts 2:17)

And it shall come to pass afterward, *That* I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. (Joel 2:28–29)

The steps in becoming a Christian outlined in Acts 2:38—repentance, baptism, remission of sin, reception of the Holy Spirit.

Among those who listened to him were devout Jews, who were sincere in their belief. But the power that accompanied the words of the speaker convinced them that Christ was indeed the Messiah. What a mighty work was accomplished! Three thousand were converted in one day. (*18LtMs*, Ms 85, 1903, par. 7)

The seed had been sown by the greatest Teacher the world had ever known. For three and a half years the Son of God had sojourned in the land of Judea, proclaiming the message of the gospel of truth and working with mighty signs and wonders. The seed had been sown, and after His ascension the great ingathering took place. More were converted by one sermon on the day of Pentecost than were converted during all the years of Christ's ministry. So mightily will God work when men give themselves to the control of the Spirit. (*18LtMs*, Ms 85, 1903, par. 8)

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

- ❖ Repent—*metanoeo*—to perceive afterwards, implying a change of one's mind or purpose, in contrast with to perceive beforehand. (Hindsight vs. foreknowledge)
- ❖ Be converted—to turn around or cause a person to turn, as in James 5:19–20. (A returning to God)
- ❖ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord God. Repent, and turn *yourselves* from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. (Ezekiel 18:30)

Repentance includes sorrow for sin and a turning away from it. We shall not renounce sin unless we see its sinfulness; until we turn away from it in heart, there will be no real change in the life.
(SC 23.2)

Plead for the Holy Spirit. God stands back of every promise He has made. With your Bible in your hands say, I have done as Thou hast said. I present Thy promise, “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.” (*COL* 147.2)

He who feels most deeply his need of divine aid will plead for it; and the Holy Spirit will give unto him glimpses of Jesus that will strengthen and uplift the soul. From communion with Christ he will go forth to work for those who are perishing in their sins. He is anointed for his mission; and he succeeds where many of the learned and intellectually wise would fail. (*DA* 436.3)

Plead for the Holy Spirit. Keep saying from the heart, “I present thy word: ‘If ye then, being evil, know how to give gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him.’” [Luke 11:13.] Urge your petition. Press it in the name of Jesus to the Father, for this name, the name of the Lord Jesus, is signed to your check, and the bank of heaven will acknowledge it. Let us all bear in mind that it is not common matters that we are handling, but sacred things, which mean everything to us. We are dealing with eternal realities. (*13LtMs*, Ms 111, 1898, par. 15)

It is with an earnest longing that I look forward to the time when the events of the day of Pentecost shall be repeated with even greater power than on that occasion. John says, "I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory." Then, as at the Pentecostal season, **the people will hear the truth spoken to them, every man in his own tongue.** God can breathe new life into every soul that sincerely desires to serve him, and can touch the lips with a live coal from off the altar, and cause them to become eloquent with his praise. Thousands of voices will be imbued with the power to speak forth the wonderful truths of God's word. The stammering tongue will be unloosed, and the timid will be made strong to bear courageous testimony to the truth. May the Lord help his people to cleanse the soul temple from every defilement, and to maintain such a close connection with him that they may be partakers of the latter rain when it shall be poured out. (*RH* July 20, 1886, par. 10)