

"Burnished Gold"

Selected quotes taken from the 66 hits on the EGW CD-ROM

The ***Spirit of God***, like a dove of **burnished gold**, encircled the form of the Saviour; and a voice came from heaven which said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." CG 525.3

Now Christ again appears to the view of His enemies. Far above the city, upon a ***foundation*** of **burnished gold**, is a ***throne***, high and lifted up. Upon this throne sits the Son of God, and around Him are the subjects of His kingdom. DD 54.2

In order to accomplish his work unperceived, Satan chose to employ as his medium the serpent — a disguise well adapted for his purpose of deception. The ***serpent*** was then one of the wisest and most beautiful creatures on the earth. It had ***wings***, and while flying through the air presented an appearance of dazzling brightness, having the ***color*** and ***brilliancy*** of **burnished gold**. PP 53.4

God did not leave Him without recognition. When He was baptized of John in Jordan, as He came up out of the water, the ***Spirit of God***, like a dove of **burnished gold**, descended upon Him, and a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17). 1SM 227.1

The Lord had promised to give John a sign whereby he might know who was the Messiah, and now as Jesus went up out of the water, the promised sign was given; for he saw the heavens opened, and the ***Spirit of God***, like a dove of **burnished gold**, hovered over the head of Christ, and a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (The Youth's Instructor, June 23, 1892). 5BC 1077.6

Never before had ***angels*** listened to such a prayer as Christ offered at his baptism, and they were ***solicitous to be the bearers of the message*** from the Father to his Son. But, no; ***direct from the Father issues the light of his glory***. The heavens were opened, and ***beams of glory*** rested upon the Son of God, and assumed the form of a dove, in appearance like **burnished gold**. The dove - like form was emblematical of the meekness and gentleness of Christ. While the people stood spell - bound with amazement, their eyes fastened upon Christ, from the opening heavens came these words: "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." The words of confirmation that Christ is the Son of God was given to inspire faith in those who witnessed the scene, and to sustain the Son of God in his arduous work. Notwithstanding the Son of God was clothed with humanity, yet Jehovah, with his own voice, assures him of his sonship with the Eternal. In this manifestation to his Son, God accepts humanity as exalted through the excellence of his beloved Son. 2SP 60.2

The divinity of Christ was as a hidden treasure. At times when He was upon earth divinity flashed through humanity, and His true character was revealed. The God of heaven testified to His oneness with His Son. At His baptism the heavens were opened and the ***glory of God*** in the similitude of a dove like **burnished gold** hovered over the Saviour, and a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17). But the

nation to whom Christ came, though professing to be the peculiar people of God, did not recognize the heavenly treasure in the person of Jesus Christ.... TMK 58.3

The distance from earth to heaven may seem very great, for sin has fixed a great gulf; it has separated man from God, and has brought woe and misery upon the human race. But Christ throws himself into the gap. He it is that opens communication between man and God. He is the ladder that Jacob saw in his vision, the base resting on the earth, and the top reaching into the highest heaven. When he bowed upon Jordan's bank, the heavens opened before him, and a voice was heard, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear ye him." The ***Spirit of God***, like a dove of **burnished gold**, descending, rested upon the divine Mediator, and communication between heaven and earth, broken off because of sin, was resumed, and heaven opened before the transgressor. {BEcho, January 15, 1889 par. 8}

Christ was baptised by John in Jordan, and as He came up out of the water after His baptism, the heavens were opened, and the ***glory of God***, symbolized by a dove of **burnished gold**, encircled Him, and from the highest heaven were heard the words, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." This was an assurance to John that Christ was the Son of God. {BEcho, November 12, 1894 par. 7}

When he came up out of the water, he knelt down on the banks of the Jordan, and offered a prayer such as had never before entered heaven. While he was praying, the heavens opened, and the ***glory of God***, in the form of a dove of **burnished gold**, rested upon him, and from the highest heaven was heard the voice of the infinite One, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." {GCB, April 4, 1901 par. 15}

When Christ bowed on the banks of Jordan, after his baptism, the heavens were opened, and the ***Spirit*** descended in the form of a dove, like **burnished gold**, and encircled him with its glory; and the voice of God from the highest heaven was heard, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." The prayer of Christ in man's behalf opened the gates of heaven, and the father had responded, accepting the petition for the fallen race. Jesus prayed as our substitute and surety, and now the human family may find access to the Father through the merits of his well-beloved Son. This earth because of transgression had been struck off from the continent of heaven. Communication had ceased between man and his Maker; but the way has been opened, so that he may return to the Father's house. Jesus is "the way, the truth, and the life." The gate of heaven has been left ajar, and the radiance from the throne of God shines into the hearts of those who love him, even though they dwell in the sin-cursed earth. The light that encircled the divine Son of God will fall upon the pathway of all those who follow in his footsteps. There is no reason for discouragement. The promises of God are sure and steadfast. {RH, February 28, 1888 par. 5}

This earth was the field of battle; here the Son of God had to contend with the wily foe in our behalf. Behold him on Jordan's bank just before he entered the desert of temptation. He offered up a prayer such as heaven never heard before, and the heavens opened and the ***Spirit of God***, like a dove of **burnished gold**, encircled the Son of God, and there was heard a voice, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Do you comprehend all that this scene signifies? It tells you that heaven is opened before you, and that your petitions will find access to the Father. After the transgression of Adam, God no longer communicated directly with man; earth was separated, as it were, from the continent of heaven; but Jesus was made our substitute, our surety, that he might bring us back to the Father, and his human arm

encircles the race, while his infinite arm reaches to the highest heavens, and thus he unites finite man to the infinite God, and connects earth with heaven. The voice that came from heaven to our Surety, tells us that heaven's portals are open and God hears our prayers, and that the light that enshrouded the Son of God will be over us if we follow in his way. {RH, June 10, 1890 par. 4}

"Behold the Lamb of God," he cried, "which taketh away the sin of the world." There Christ stood revealed before the people. The **glory of God** descended upon him in the form of a dove like **burnished gold**, and the voice of the infinite One declared, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." {RH, February 13, 1900 par. 14}

Satan then assumed the form of a serpent, and entered Eden. The **serpent** was a beautiful creature, with wings; and while flying through the air, his appearance was bright, resembling **burnished gold**. He did not go upon the ground, but went from place to place through the air, and ate fruit like man. Satan entered into the serpent, who took his position in the tree of knowledge, and commenced leisurely eating of the fruit. {ST, January 16, 1879 par. 23}

After Christ was baptized of John in Jordan, he came up out of the water, and bowing upon the banks of the river, he prayed with fervency to his Heavenly Father for strength to endure the conflict with the prince of darkness in which he was about to engage. The heavens were opened to his prayer and the **light of God's glory**, brighter than the sun at noonday, came from the throne of the Eternal, and, assuming the form of a dove with the appearance of **burnished gold**, encircled the Son of God, while the clear voice from the excellent glory was heard in terrible majesty, saying, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." {ST, August 7, 1879 par. 7}

These sacred apartments had no windows to admit light. The candlestick, beaten out of one solid piece of gold, was kept burning day and night, and gave light to both apartments. The **gold-plated walls**, reflecting the light from the seven lamps of the **golden candlestick**, the richly embroidered curtains of blue and purple and scarlet, with their **shining cherubim**, the table of **show-bread** and the **altar of incense**, glittering like **burnished gold**, presented a scene of magnificence and glory which no words can describe. {ST, June 24, 1880 par. 14}

As Jesus prayed after his baptism, the **Holy Spirit**, in the form of a dove of **burnished gold**, hovered over him, and a voice was heard, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Through the gates ajar there streamed bright beams of glory from the throne of Jehovah, and this light shines even upon us. The assurance given to Christ is assurance to every repenting, believing, obedient child of God that he is accepted in the Beloved. {ST, July 31, 1884 par. 15}

Christ came to bear the conflict in which man was conquered. The earth was the battle-field. Just before the temptation he bowed on Jordan's bank and offered up a prayer that cleared its way to the throne of his Father. The Heaven opened and the voice of God responded, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased;" and the **Holy Spirit** in the form of a dove, like **burnished gold**, descended upon his head. {ST, November 24, 1887 par. 8}

The Saviour of the world proposed that no attraction of an earthly character should call men to his side. The light and beauty of celestial truth alone should be the drawing power. The outward glory, the worldly honor, which attracts the attention of men, he would not assume. He made

himself accessible to all, teaching the pure, exalted principle of truth as that which was only worthy of their notice. But although so humbly born, so unpretending in life, God did not leave him without a witness. The principalities of heaven did him homage. Wonders in the heavens above and signs in the earth beneath attested his power and majesty. At his baptism a voice from heaven fell upon the ears of men, declaring, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." The ***bright glory of God*** in the form of a dove of **burnished gold** encircled him. John declared: "That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not." {ST, January 20, 1890 par. 4}

The priests saw that they were in a dilemma from which no sophistry could extricate them. If they said that John's baptism was from heaven, their inconsistency would be made apparent. Christ would say, Why then have you not believed on John? After the baptism of Christ, John had seen the ***glory of God***, like a dove of **burnished gold**, resting upon Him, while the voice of the Infinite One proclaimed, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." And John had testified of Christ, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." Why, then, if the Pharisees believed on John, did they deny the Messiahship of Christ? {ST, February 10, 1898 par. 4}

At Christ's baptism the ***glory of God*** rested upon Him, as a dove of **burnished gold**. Light from the throne of God encircled Him, while from heaven were heard the words, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." {ST, December 3, 1902 par. 2}

The God of heaven testified to his oneness with his Son. At his baptism the heavens were opened, and the ***glory of God*** in the similitude of a dove like **burnished gold** hovered over the Saviour, and a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." {YI, August 22, 1895 par. 3}

That prayer penetrated the shadow of Satan, which surrounded the Saviour, and cleaved its way to the throne of God. The heavens were opened, and a dove, in appearance like **burnished gold**, rested upon Jesus; and from the lips of the Infinite God were heard the words, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." {YI, December 21, 1899 par. 1}

Notwithstanding the opposition of the strongest powers of darkness, there is One able to open the door. This is the same door that was opened at the baptism of Christ. After the Saviour had taken the steps in conversion requisite for every sinner to take in order to be saved,--repentance, faith, and baptism,--thus entering into covenant relation with God, He kneeled on the bank of the Jordan and prayed. And the heavens were opened, and the ***Holy Ghost***, in the form of a dove of **burnished gold**, hovered over the Son of Man, enshrouding Him in light, while a voice from the highest heaven declared, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." {7MR 125.2}

As Christ bowed upon Jordan's banks after His baptism, there was a ***bright light*** that descended like a dove of **burnished gold** and lighted upon Him, and from heaven was heard a voice saying, "This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17). {9MR 231.1}

From the experience of Christ in the wilderness of temptation, we may learn that there is no conquest without a combat. Remember that this temptation came to Christ immediately after the heavens had been opened and the ***Spirit of God***, like a dove of **burnished gold**, had rested on

Him. In the wilderness He had held close communion with God. Then the storm of temptation fell upon Him. {21MR 10.5}

When Christ bowed on the banks of Jordan and offered up prayer to heaven, it was in our behalf that He prayed. And as He prayed, the heavens were opened, and the ***glory of God*** like a dove of **burnished gold** rested upon Him, while from the highest heaven was heard a voice, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17). This is heaven's pledge in behalf of humanity. Christ's prayer was offered for us. We are accepted in the Beloved. What an incentive this should be to us to strive earnestly and perseveringly to please our Saviour, to live so that He shall not have died for us in vain! {1SAT 321.2}

The ***Father Himself answered the petition*** of His Son. Direct from the throne issued the ***beams of His glory***. The heavens were opened, and upon the Saviour's head descended a dove of **burnished gold**--fit emblem of Him, the meek and lowly One. A ***heavenly light*** encircled the Son of man; and from the highest heaven was heard the words, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." {2SAT 220.3}