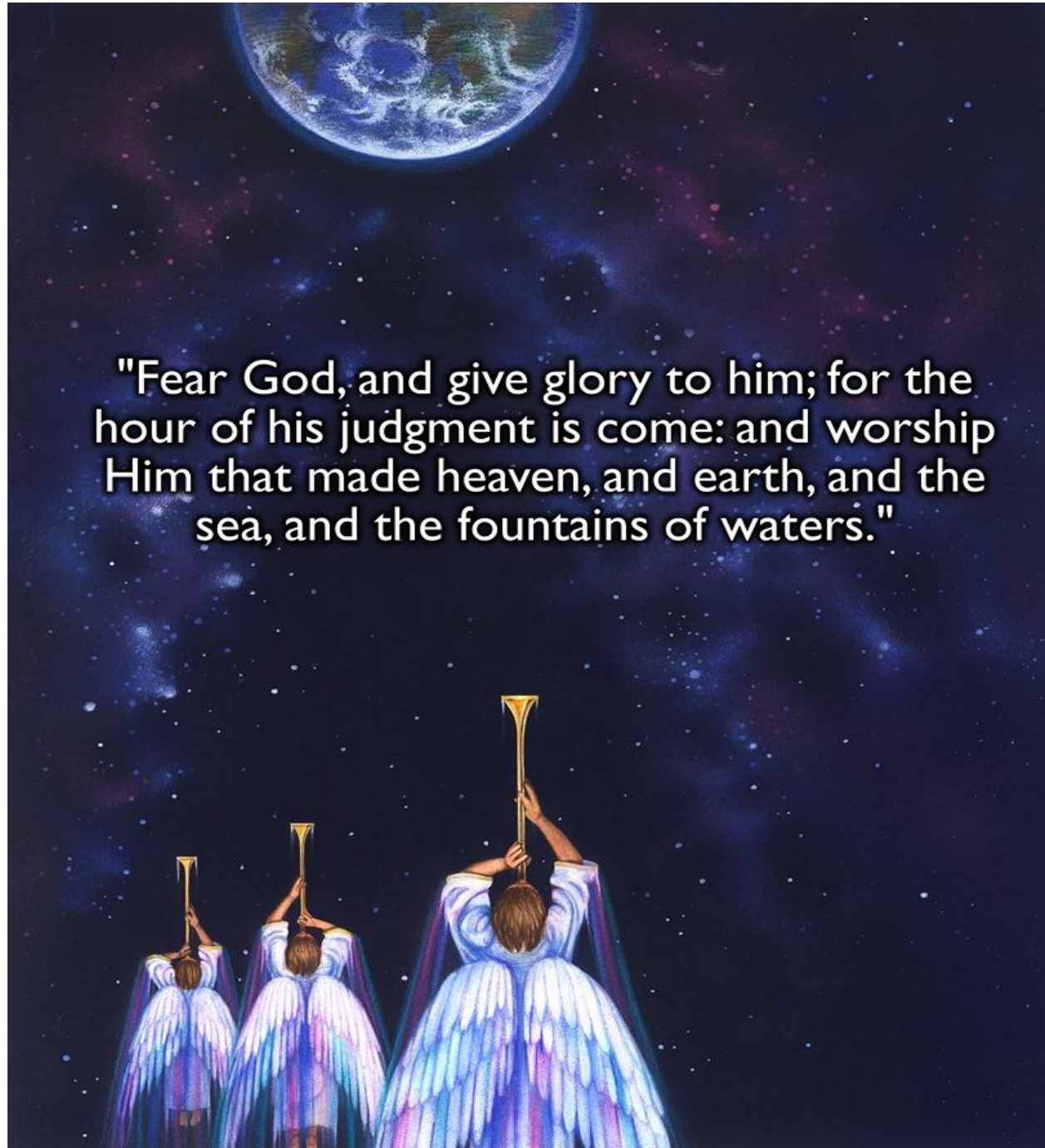


THE FIRST ANGEL'S MESSAGE



"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."

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CHAPTER 1: THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL

The first angel’s message in Revelation 14:6-7 contains the everlasting gospel, which must be preached unto everyone who lives on Earth.

Revelation 14:6-7 “And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, 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.”

What is the everlasting gospel? It is a call to give glory to God, and it says why God is entitled to glory. Specifically, it identifies God as the Creator, the Judge, and the Exalted. The Sabbath commandment is also quoted in Revelation 14:7. Both Revelation 14:7 and Exodus 20:7 say the LORD made heaven, and earth, and the sea.

Revelation 14:7 “worship him that **made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.**”

Exodus 20:11 “For in six days the Lord **made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is**, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.”

Why is this important? The Sabbath commandment identifies who the LORD is, and to worship God properly you need to know whose day the Sabbath day is.

Let us use Scripture to define Scripture and find out who the Creator, Judge, and the Exalted is.

The Creator

“Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters”

When the apostles prayed to the Father in Acts 4:24-27, they applied verbatim the Sabbath commandment to Him, saying that the Father is the One who made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is:

Acts 4:24-27 “And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, **Lord, thou art God**, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is: Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things? The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against **the Lord**, and against his Christ. For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together,”

Notice that “the Lord” has a “child Jesus”, which shows the Lord they are speaking to, is the Father.

“But in this was there no sacrifice made by the Father? The Creator Himself, the Omnipotent God, suffered with His Son.” {Signs of the Times, Feb 22, 1899, par. 6}

What about the Word? The Creator is the Father, but He created all things through His Son Jesus Christ. Thus, it was God’s will to create all things, and the Word carried out His will.

Hebrews 1:1-2 “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;”

Ephesians 3:9 “And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things **by Jesus Christ**.”

John 1:1-4 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men.”

“The Son of God had wrought the Father's will in the creation of all the hosts of heaven; and to Him, as well as to God, their homage and allegiance were due. Christ was still to exercise divine power, in the creation of the earth and its inhabitants. But in all this He would not seek power or exaltation for Himself contrary to God's plan, but would exalt the Father's glory and execute His purposes of beneficence and love.” {Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 36}

Whose day is the Sabbath then? Well, as the Father created all things through His Son, Christ is greater than all things; and thus can also rightfully claim that the Sabbath is His day. The Father is the Source of all things, and the Son is the Channel by Whom all things were made. Therefore, the Sabbath is the day of the Father and the Son.

The Father is the God of the Sabbath, and Christ is “Lord of the Sabbath” (Matthew 12:8).

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.”

“In the beginning the Father and the Son had rested upon the Sabbath after Their work of creation.” {Desire of Ages, p. 769}

The Judge

“the hour of his judgment is come”

Who is the Judge of all? In Hebrews and Daniel, it is shown that God the Father is the Judge of all, and so it is God the Father who will preside in the judgment

Hebrews 12:23-24 “To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, **and** to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.”

Daniel 7:9-10 “I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.”

“Thus was presented to the prophet’s vision the great and solemn day when the characters and the lives of men should pass in review before the Judge of all the earth, and to every man should be rendered “according to his works.” **The Ancient of Days is God the Father**. Says the psalmist: “Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God.” Psalm 90:2. It is He, the source of all being, and the fountain of all law, that is to preside in the judgment.” {The Great Controversy p. 479}

What about Christ? Well, Christ Himself said the Father has committed all judgment unto Him. Paul confirmed that God will judge the world by Christ.

John 5:22 “For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:”

Romans 2:16 “In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.”

“Christ can and will judge every case; for all judgment has been committed to him by the Father.” {Review and Herald, July 31, 1900, par. 14}

Thus, the judgment portion of the first angel’s message also points to glorifying the Father and the Son.

The Exalted

“worship him”

Whom will the true worshippers worship? Christ Himself said the true worshippers will worship the Father.

John 4:23 “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.”

“The Lord God omnipotent is the God of His people. He is also a tender, loving Father, ready to hear their prayers, for God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them.” {Ms36-1897.5}

What about Christ? Well, Christ Himself said that the only way to honor the Father, is to honor the Son equally. Paul confirmed that confessing Jesus Christ as Lord, is how we give glory to God 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.”

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

“By Christ, the Father wrought in the creation of all heavenly beings. "By Him were all things created, that are in heaven, . . . whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers" (Colossians 1:16); and to Christ, equally with the Father, all heaven gave allegiance.” {The Great Controversy p. 493}

Revelation shows that all of creation will give worship to only two divine beings: God the Father, and His Son Jesus Christ.

Revelation 5:13 “And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, **and** unto the Lamb for ever and ever.”

Revelation 7:9-10 “9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; 10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, **and** unto the Lamb.”

“The Father and the Son alone are to be exalted.” {Youth’s Instructor, July 7, 1898, par. 2}

In Sum

The everlasting gospel is that we must give glory to God the Father by worshipping His Son Jesus Christ, because worshipping Christ is the only way to honor God the Father. God is entitled to worship, because He created all things through His Son, will judge the world by His Son, and receives glory through His Son. Therefore, the everlasting gospel points to the Father and His Son.

CHAPTER 2: ANOTHER GOSPEL

The Scriptures warn us that there is another gospel, which is the deceptive counterfeit of the everlasting gospel. It is vital to know how to expose this deception, because this other gospel can corrupt you and prevent you from being joined to Christ. Paul warned us about it in 2 Corinthians 11:2-4.

2 Corinthians 11:2-4 “For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.”

How can we expose this other gospel? As always, we must let Scripture define Scripture. We must find the definitions for the terms of the warning, and see if they all have something in common.

Another Jesus

“preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached”

Whom did the apostles preach that Jesus is? They preached that Jesus is **the Son of God**.

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

2 Corinthians 1:19 “For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us, even by me and Silvanus and Timotheus, was not yea and nay, but in him was yea.”

“This fact the [fallen] angels would obscure, that Christ was the only begotten Son of God, and they came to consider that they were not to consult Christ. One angel began the controversy and carried it on until there was rebellion in the heavenly courts, among the angels.” {This Day with God, p. 128}

Another spirit

“or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received”

Whose Spirit did we receive? The Scriptures declare that God sends **the Spirit of His Son**.

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

“He who has only an emotional religion is controlled by “another spirit,” not the Spirit of Christ. Flighty and sentimental, he is a burden to the church. At times his imagination soars high, but it goes down correspondingly when the cause of excitement is removed. By the death of His only begotten Son, God has made it possible for man to reach the high ideal set before him.” {Lt152, 1901, par. 9-10}

Another gospel

“or another gospel, which ye have not accepted”

What is the gospel? Christ Himself declared that the only way to be saved is to **believe** on the name of the only begotten Son of God.

John 3:18 “He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

The apostle John also confirmed this:

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.”

“Christ was the only begotten Son of God, and Lucifer, that glorious angel, got up a warfare over the matter, until he had to be thrust down to the earth.” {Ms86, August 21, 1910}

“The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church, would be discarded. Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years would be accounted as error.” {1SM 204.2}

Yearbooks 1889, p. 147

Yearbook 1905, p. 188

“Fundamental Principles of Seventh Day Adventists

1. That there is one God, a personal, spiritual being, the Creator of all things, omnipotent, omniscient, and eternal; infinite in wisdom, holiness, justice, goodness, truth, and mercy; unchangeable, and everywhere present by his representative, the Holy Spirit. Ps. 139: 7.

2. That there is one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Eternal Father, the one by whom he created all things, and by whom they do consist;

19. That the Spirit of God was promised to manifest itself in the church through certain gifts, enumerated especially in 1 Corinthians 12 and Ephesians 4;”

<http://documents.adventistarchives.org/Yearbooks/YB1889.pdf>

<http://documents.adventistarchives.org/Yearbooks/YB1905.pdf>

What is the common factor of every definition of every term of the warning? It is that Jesus is **the Son of God**. Thus, the other gospel is about another Jesus who is not really the Son of God.

Now, does the Bible have another warning about the other gospel that is also about Christ’s Sonship? Yes. Antichrist teachings deny that Jesus is the Christ, and thus deny the Father and the Son. What is “the Christ?” It means “the 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: he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.”

Matthew 16:16 “And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

John 6:69 “And we believe and are sure that thou art that 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.”

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.”

“Here the apostle has pointed out one of the marked characteristics of spiritualist teachers. They refuse to acknowledge Christ as the Son of God. Concerning such teachers the beloved John declares: “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.” 1 John 2:22, 23. Spiritualism, by denying Christ, denies both the Father and the Son, and the Bible pronounces it the manifestation of antichrist.” {Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 686}

Denying that Jesus is the Christ, thus, means denying that Jesus is the Son of God. How does this deny both the Father and the Son? If you deny that Jesus is the Son of God, you also deny that God is the Father of Jesus.

1 John 2:23-24 “Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also. Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father.”

“[quotes 1 John 2:22-29]. He who denies the personality of God and of his Son Jesus Christ, is denying God and Christ. “If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father.” If you continue to believe and obey the truths you first embraced regarding the personality of the Father and the Son, you will be joined together with him in love.” {Review and Herald, March 8, 1906, par. 17-19}

In Sum

The other gospel is about another Jesus who is not really the Son of God. It is an antichrist teaching that denies Jesus is the Christ, which means that it denies Jesus is the Son of God. Thus, to hold fast to the true gospel, we must look at Christ’s teachings about His **Sonship**.

CHAPTER 3: THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD

The simple question is this: was Christ really the Son of God before He came to Earth?

Let us first look at how “begotten” is used in the Scriptures. Christ Himself declared that God sent His only begotten Son into the world, and the apostles confirmed this. This means that Christ must have been begotten before He came into the world. God did not send His Son to be begotten in the world. Rather, God **sent** His only begotten Son into the world.

John 3:16-17 “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. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.”

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.”

Hebrews 1:6 “And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him.”

“The dedication of the first-born had its origin in the earliest times. God had promised to give the First-born of heaven to save the sinner.” {Desire of Ages, p. 51}

“A complete offering has been made; for “God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,”—not a son by creation, as were the angels, nor a son by adoption, as is the forgiven sinner, but a Son begotten in the express image of the Father’s person, and in all the brightness of his majesty and glory, one equal with God in authority, dignity, and divine perfection. In him dwelt all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.” {ST May 30, 1895, par. 3}

Paul further confirmed that Christ’s Sonship did not begin at the incarnation. He declared that God sent **His own Son** in the likeness of sinful flesh. This means that Christ must have been God’s own Son before He took on flesh.

Romans 8:3 “For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God **sending his own Son** in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:”

“God sent His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, liable to physical infirmities, tempted in all points like as we are. He was the Son of the living God. His personality did not begin with His incarnation in the flesh.” {Lt 77, 1894, par. 9}

God the Father testified twice that Christ is His beloved Son. According to God the Father, the reason Christ is divine is because Christ is His Son.

Matthew 3:17 “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.”

“At the Saviour's baptism, Satan was among the witnesses. He saw the Father's glory overshadowing His Son. He heard the voice of Jehovah testifying to the divinity of Jesus.” {Desire of Ages, p. 116}

Next, let's look at how Christ Himself defined “begotten.” He proclaimed that the life which was in Himself was given to Him by the Father. The Son of God received not just some, but all things from His Father, including His life.

John 5:25-26 “Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he **given** to the Son to have life in himself;”

“All things Christ received from God, but He took to give. So in the heavenly courts, in His ministry for all created beings: through the beloved Son, the Father's life flows out to all; through the Son it returns, in praise and joyous service, a tide of love, to the great Source of all.” {Desire of Ages, p. 21}

“In him was life; and the life was the light of men” (John 1:4). It is not physical life that is here specified, but immortality, the life which is exclusively the property of God. The Word, who was with God, and who was God, had this life. Physical life is something which each individual receives. It is not eternal or immortal; for God, the Life-giver, takes it again. Man has no control over his life. But the life of Christ was unborrowed. No one can take this life from Him. “I lay it down of myself” (John 10:18), He said. In Him was life, original, unborrowed, underived. This life is not inherent in man. He can possess it only through Christ. He cannot

earn it; it is given him as a free gift if he will believe in Christ as His personal Saviour.” {ST April 8, 1897, par. 2}

Further, Christ proclaimed that He had proceeded forth from God.

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.”

“Before the assembled inhabitants of heaven the King declared that none but Christ, the Only Begotten of God, could fully enter into His purposes, and to Him it was committed to execute the mighty counsels of His will.” {Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 36}

Moreover, Christ Himself declared to His disciples that He came out from God, and this was no proverb. This means that Christ literally came out from God.

John 16:25-30 “These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father. At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you: For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I **came out from God**. I came forth from the Father, **and** am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father. His disciples said unto him, Lo, now speakest thou plainly, and speakest no proverb. Now are we sure that thou knowest all things, and needest not that any man should ask thee: by this we believe that thou camest forth from God.”

“The Eternal Father, the unchangeable one, gave his only begotten Son, tore from his bosom Him who was made in the express image of his person, and sent him down to earth to reveal how greatly he loved mankind.” {Review and Herald, July 9, 1895, par. 13}

The Old Testament shows several other times that Christ was the Son of God before the incarnation. When Christ saved Daniel’s friends in the furnace, the king knew He was the Son of God, because they had told the king what the Scriptures declare about Him.

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.”

Psalm 2:7 “I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.”

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.”

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?”

“Christ is declared in the Scriptures to be the Son of God. From all eternity He has sustained this relation to Jehovah. Before the foundations of the world were laid, He, the only begotten Son of God, pledged Himself to become the Redeemer of the human race should men sin.” {Ms 22 1905, par. 4}

It pleased the Father that all fulness dwell in Christ, and so this is why all the fulness of the Godhead dwells in Christ.

Colossians 1:19 “For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;”

Colossians 2:9 “For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.”

“In Christ is gathered all the glory of the Father. In Him is all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. He is the brightness of the Father’s glory, and the express image of His person. The glory of the attributes of God are expressed in His character.” {Ms 44, 1898, par. 21}

“Before Christ came in the likeness of men, he existed in the express image of his Father.” {Youth’s Instructor, December 20, 1900}

Is not Christ God? Yes, He is. The Word is God, because He is the only begotten Son of God. Christ Himself declared that He and His Father are one, because He is the Son of God.

John 1:14 “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.”

John 10:30-36 “I and my Father are one. Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him. Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me? 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?"

"The Lord Jesus Christ, the divine Son of God, existed from eternity, a distinct person, yet one with the Father. He was the surpassing glory of heaven. He was the commander of the heavenly intelligences, and the adoring homage of the angels was received by Him as His right. This was no robbery of God. "The Lord possessed me in the beginning of his way," He declares, "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. Proverbs 8:22-27" {1 Selected Messages, p. 247}

Christ proclaimed that He came in His Father's name; and the apostles confirmed that Christ inherited His name, because He was begotten. This was also confirmed in the Old Testament.

John 5:43 "I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive."

Exodus 23:21 "Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name is in him."

Hebrews 1:1-5 "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: Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?"

"Jehovah is the name given to Christ." {ST, May 3, 1899, par. 18}

“The Scriptures clearly indicate the relation between God and Christ, and they bring to view as clearly the personality and individuality of each. [Quotes Hebrews 1:1-5]. God is the Father of Christ; Christ is the Son of God. To Christ has been given an exalted position. He has been made equal with the Father. All the counsels of God are opened to His Son.” {8T 268, par. 1-3}

What about Isaiah? Christ is now called the mighty God and the everlasting Father, because He cast out the god of this world and became the last Adam.

John 12:31-32 “Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.”}

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.”

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.”

“Christ was the only begotten Son of the infinite God, He was the Commander in the heavenly courts, yet He refrained from bringing accusation against Satan. Speaking of Him, Isaiah says, “Unto us a child is born; unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulders; he shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.” [Isaiah 9:6.]” {Lt 58, 1895, par. 46}

“When man became Satan's captive, the dominion which he held, passed to his conqueror. Thus Satan became “the god of this world.” 2 Corinthians 4:4. He had usurped that dominion over the earth which had been originally given to Adam. But Christ, by His sacrifice paying the penalty of sin, would not only redeem man, but recover the dominion which he had forfeited. All that was lost by the first Adam will be restored by the second.” {Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 67}

Paul confirmed that Christ is in the form of God and is thus rightfully equal with God. What does this mean? There are two definitions of the word “God:” the nature of God and who God is. Christ is God in nature, because He is the Son of God; just as Christ became man in nature, because He became the Son of man.

Philippians 2:5-7 “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made

himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:”

“The Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of the Father, is truly God in infinity, but not in personality.” {Ms 116, 1905, par. 19 }

There were also, for example, two definitions for the word “Adam,” because God told His Son let Us make Man in Our image. Eve was Adam in nature, because she was taken out of Adam, but she was not Adam himself.

“After the earth was created, and the beasts upon it, the Father and Son carried out their purpose, which was designed before the fall of Satan, to make man in their own image. They had wrought together in the creation of the earth and every living thing upon it. And now God said to His Son, “Let us make man in our image.”” {The Story of Redemption, p. 20 }

Finally, Christ declared He is the Wisdom of God, and Paul also confirmed this. Why is this important? Because under the title of wisdom, Christ declared that He was **brought forth** – (born) before anything was created in eternity past.

Luke 11:49 “Therefore also said the wisdom of God, I will send them prophets and apostles, and some of them they shall slay and persecute:”

1 Corinthians 1:24 “But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, **Christ** the power of God, and the **wisdom** of God.”

Proverbs 8:12, 22-30 “I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions. . . . 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;”

“And the Son of God declares concerning Himself: "The Lord possessed Me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting. . . .

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." Proverbs 8:22-30." {Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 34}

“Through Solomon **Christ declared**: “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.... 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.” {Signs of the Times, Aug 29, 1900, par. 14}

In Sum

Christ was the only begotten Son of God **before** He was sent into the world. He received life from His Father, because He literally came out from His Father. As such, He inherited His name from His Father. Christ is God in form, because He is the Son of God. Before anything was created, Christ was brought forth.

CHAPTER 4: GOD THE FATHER

Who did Christ and the apostles declare God the Father to be? The true gospel declares Christ was the only begotten Son of God before He came to Earth. Does this mean God the Father is the only true God? Let us look at what the Scriptures say.

In His prayer, Christ clearly proclaimed that His Father is the only true God, making a distinction between His Father and Himself.

John 17:1-3 “These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”

"Our heavenly Father is the God of the universe, and Christ is the divine Son, the One equal with the Father." {Ms 49, 1906, par.26}

Now, of course, Christ is equal with the Father, as you need to know Both for eternal life. Nonetheless, only His Father is the only true God, for He is **the Source** of all life, including the life of Christ (John 5:26).

Next, Christ declared to Mary that His Father is both His God and our God. He also confirmed this to John in Revelation. Like the proclamation in His prayer, this is quite clear.

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.”

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.’

"But Christ raised His hand, saying, Detain 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' And Mary went her way to the disciples with the joyful message. Jesus refused to receive the homage of His people until He had the assurance that His sacrifice was accepted by the Father. He ascended to the heavenly courts, and from God Himself heard the assurance that

His atonement for the sins of men had been ample, that through His blood all might gain eternal life." {Desire of Ages, p.790}

Further, Christ proclaimed we must believe in God, and also in Himself. Thus, He makes yet another distinction between His Father and Himself.

John 14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me."

"There is a personal God, the Father; there is a personal Christ, the Son." {Review and Herald, {Nov. 8, 1898, par. 9}

Moreover, Christ declared that His 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."

Luke 10:21 "In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight."

"When the law was spoken, the Lord, the Creator of heaven and earth, stood by the side of his Son, enshrouded in the fire and the smoke on the mount." {Signs of the Times, Oct.15, 1896, par. 4}

Now let's look at what the apostles said.

Paul clearly confirmed that the one God of the universe is the Father, and that there is no other God but Him.

1 Corinthians 8:4-6 "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. For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,) 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."

"Christ is the One through whom God has at all times revealed Himself to man. "But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by Him." 1 Corinthians 8:6. "This is he [Moses], that was in the church in the wilderness with the Angel which spake to him in the Mount Sinai, and with our fathers: who received the

lively oracles to give unto us.” Acts 7:38. This Angel was the Angel of God's presence (Isaiah 63:9), the Angel in whom was the name of the great Jehovah (Exodus 23:20-23). The expression can refer to no other than the Son of God.” {Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 761 }

Keep in mind that at the same time in 1 Corinthians 8:6 above, he confirmed the Lord Jesus Christ is the One equal to the Father.

Further, Paul confirmed that that the living and true God is the Father.

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.

Notice that the “living and true God” above **has a Son**? So the living and true God must be the Father.

“Christ represented his Father; he knew how the Father would do under any and every circumstance, and he did just as the Father would do. He made manifest in his work the ways of God. The living God was working through his Son.” {Review and Herald, October 14, 1902, par. 11 }

Moreover, Paul confirmed that the Father is the one God, and Christ is the one mediator between us and God.

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

“Let the missionaries of the cross proclaim that there is one God, and one Mediator between God and man, who is Jesus Christ the Son of the Infinite God. This needs to be proclaimed throughout every church in our land.” {Ms40-1891.78 }

Paul, finally, confirmed that the Father is the God of all comfort.

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.”

“He is the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort. The earth is full of His goodness. Creation proclaims, with myriad voice, the forbearance, love, and compassion of the Almighty. Thru all the ages God has manifested for the human race a love that is without a parallel. He so loved man that He bestowed on him a gift that defies computation. That the abundance of His grace might be revealed,

He sent His only-begotten Son to our world, to live a man among men, to spend His life in the service of humanity.” {Signs of the Times, January 2, 1901, par. 2-3}

Luke confirmed twice that the Father is the God of our fathers.

Acts 3:13 “The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go.”

Acts 5:30 “The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree.”

“It was only after much persuasion on the part of Paul, and careful explanation regarding the mission of himself and Barnabas as representatives of the God of heaven and of His Son, the great Healer, that the people were persuaded to give up their purpose.” {Acts of the Apostles, p. 182}

The apostles confirmed that the Father is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 11:31 “The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is blessed for evermore, knoweth that I lie not.”

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.”

Ephesians 1:17 “That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him.’

1 Thessalonians 3:13 “To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.”

2 Thessalonians 2:16 “Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace.’

“The God of heaven sent his Son into our world to give lessons which contain the true science. But were Christ in our world today, he would say to many teachers, as he said to the Pharisees, ‘Ye neither know me, nor my Father.’” (Review and Herald, Oct.25, 1898)

Jude confirmed that the Father is the only Lord God.

Jude 4 “For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.”

"True education is the inculcation of those ideas which will impress the mind with the knowledge of God the Creator, and Jesus Christ the only begotten Son of God." {8MR 250.1}

John confirmed that the Father is the Lord God Almighty.

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

“Christ declared, I have pledged myself, as the only begotten Son of the Lord God Almighty, to carry out God's plan to win souls from Satan.” {Review and Herald, November 10, 1910, par. 3}

In Sum

Christ proclaimed that His Father is: the only true God, His God and our God, and the Lord of heaven and earth. Thus, according to Christ, we must believe in both God and Christ. Paul confirmed that the Father is: the one God, the living God, and the God of all comfort. Luke confirmed the Father is: the God of our fathers. The apostles confirmed the Father is: the God and Father of Jesus. Jude confirmed the Father is: the only Lord God. John confirmed the Father is: the Lord God Almighty.

CHAPTER 5: THE HOLY SPIRIT

Who or what is the Holy Spirit? Who is knocking on the door of your heart? Is it Christ through His own Spirit, or is it someone else? We must let the Scriptures define Scripture.

Let's look at the whole Comforter promise, so we can see the whole context.

John 14:16-23 “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. 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. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? 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.”

The disciples asked Christ: how will **You manifest Yourself** to us and not to the world? They knew that Christ was referring to Himself. Christ is the Comforter, because the Spirit of truth is His own Spirit. How? Let's look at each verse, including the other verses that mention the Comforter.

--John 14:16: Who did John say the Comforter is? –

John 14:16 “And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter (Greek: parakletos), that he may abide with you for ever;”

1 John 2:1 “My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate (Greek: parakletos) with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:”

“Let them link up with one another and with Christ. Let them study the seventeenth of John, and learn how to pray and how to live the prayer of Christ. He is the Comforter.” {RH, Jan. 27, 1903, Art. A, par. 13}

“Christ is our Guide and Comforter, who comforts us in all our tribulations.” {2SM 270.3}

--John 14:17: Whose Spirit is the Spirit of truth? –

John 14:6 “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

John 14:16-17 “16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 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.”

Philippians 1:19 “For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,”

Romans 8:9 “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.”

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

1 Peter 1:11 “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.”

“Christ was the Spirit of truth. The world would not listen to His pleadings. They would not accept Him as their guide. They could not discern unseen things; spiritual things were unknown to them. But His disciples see in Him the Way, the Truth, and the Life. And they shall have His abiding presence.” {Ms44-1897.8}

“The only safeguard against his power is found in the presence of Jesus. Before men and angels Satan has been revealed as man's enemy and destroyer; Christ, as man's friend and deliverer. His Spirit will develop in man all that will ennoble the character and dignify the nature. It will build man up for the glory of God in body and soul and spirit.” {Desire of Ages, p. 341}

“Sin could be resisted and overcome only through the mighty agency of the Third Person of the Godhead, who would come with no modified energy, but in the fullness of divine power. It is the Spirit that makes effectual what has been wrought out by the world's Redeemer. It is by the Spirit that the heart is made pure. Through the Spirit the believer becomes a partaker of the divine nature. **Christ has given His Spirit** as a divine power to overcome all hereditary and cultivated tendencies to evil, and to impress His own character upon His church. {Desire of Ages, p. 671}

“Christ gives them the breath of His own spirit, the life of His own life. The Holy Spirit puts forth its highest energies to work in heart and mind.” {Desire of Ages, p. 827}

--John 14:18: Who comes to you, so you will not be comfortless?--

John 14:18 “I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.”

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.”

Mark 16:12 “After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country.”

“Christ comes as a Comforter to all who believe. He invites your confidence. He says, “Abide in me.” [John 15:4.] Surely we may trust in our loving Saviour. You can say, “Yes, my Saviour; in thee I can and will trust. I will abide in thee.” Then how trustfully you can work in His presence.” {Lt103-1898.14}

"Jesus comes to you as the Spirit of truth; study the mind of the Spirit, consult your Lord, follow His way." {2MR 337.1}

“Cumbered with humanity, Christ could not be in every place personally; therefore it was altogether for their advantage that He should leave them, go to His father, and send the Holy Spirit to be His successor on earth. The Holy Spirit is Himself divested of the personality of humanity and independent thereof. He would represent Himself as present in all places by His Holy Spirit, as the Omnipresent.” {14MR 23.3}

“Only Christ can cleanse the soul temple. But He will not force an entrance. He comes not into the heart as to the temple of old; but He says, “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him.” Revelation 3:20. He will come, not for one day merely; for He says, “I will dwell in them, and walk in them; ... and they shall be My people.” “He will subdue our iniquities; and Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.” 2 Corinthians 6:16; Micah 7:19. His presence will cleanse and sanctify the soul, so that it may be a holy temple unto the Lord, and “an habitation of God through the Spirit.” Ephesians 2:21, 22.” {Desire of Ages, p.161.2}

--John 14:19-20: At the day the Comforter is sent to you, who lives in you?--

John 14:19-20 “Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.”

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

Ephesians 3:16-17 “That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,”

2 Corinthians 13:5 “Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?”

“When God's people take the position that they are the temple of the Holy Ghost, Christ Himself abiding within, they will so clearly reveal Him in spirit, words and actions, that there will be an unmistakable distinction between them and Satan's followers.” {Ms100, July 14, 1902, par. 24}

“We are ready to receive the Comforter; we open the door of the heart, and invite the Saviour in.” {GCB April 2, 1903, Art. C. par. 7}

“The Holy Spirit has a personality, else He could not bear witness to our spirits and with our spirits that we are the children of God. He must also be a divine person, else He could not search out the secrets which lie hidden in the mind of God. 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.] {Ms20 1906, par. 32}

“The influence of the Holy Spirit is the life of Christ in the soul. We do not now see Christ and speak to Him, but His Holy Spirit is just as near us in one place as another. It works in and through every one who receives Christ.” {BEcho June 17, 1901, par. 6}

--John 14:21-22: Who manifests Himself to you?--

John 14:21-22 “He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?”

2 Corinthians 3:14-17 “But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ. But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart. Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away. Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.”

“We want the Holy Spirit, which is Jesus Christ.” {Lt 66, April 10, 1894, par. 18}

“The disciples still failed to understand Christ's words in their spiritual sense, and again He explained His meaning. By the Spirit, He said, He would manifest Himself to them.” {Desire of Ages, p. 670}

“In all their emergencies and perplexities, they will have a helper in Jesus Christ. That Christ should manifest Himself to them, and yet be invisible to the world, was a mystery to the disciples. They could not understand the words of Christ in their spiritual sense. They were thinking of the outward, visible manifestation. They could not take in the fact that they could have the presence of Christ with them, and yet He be unseen by the world. They did not understand the meaning of a spiritual manifestation.” {Southern Works, Sept. 13, 1898, par. 1-2}

John 14:23 --Who makes Their abode with us?--

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.”

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 “Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work.”

“By the Spirit the Father and the Son will come and make their abode with you.” {BEcho, Jan. 15, 1893.8}

John 14:24-26 – Who is our Teacher? –

John 14:24-26 “He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me. These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with 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.”

Matthew 23:8 “But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren.”

1 John 2:27 “But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.”

“Christ is to be known by the blessed name of Comforter. “The Comforter,” said Christ to His disciples, “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,” {Ms7-1902.10}

"The holy Spirit is the comforter, as the personal presence of Christ to the soul." {RH, Nov. 29, 1892, par.3}

“By imbuing them with His own Spirit, Christ the great Teacher is fitting them to do a good and important work.” {Lt 122, Aug. 14, 1899, par. 10}

--John 14:27-28: Who comes again to you?—

John 14:27-28 “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. 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.”

“There is nothing else that can save us. Christ comes in His divine nature, and here is every soul will be enlightened according to what you study, according to what you give the mind to feed upon.” {Ms138-1906.20}

“We have been brought together as a school, and we need to realize that the Holy Spirit, who is as much a person as God is a person, is walking through these grounds, that the Lord God is our keeper, and helper.” {MR66-1899.11}

“Christ walks unseen through our streets. With messages of mercy He comes to our homes. With all who are seeking to minister in His name, He waits to cooperate. He is in the midst of us, to heal and to bless, if we will receive Him.” {Ministry of Healing, p. 107}

--John 15:26: Who testifies of Christ? –

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:”

1 Peter 1:11 “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.”

“The Saviour had spoken through all the prophets. “The Spirit of Christ which was in them” “testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.” 1 Peter 1:11.” {Desire of Ages, p. 234}

“As by faith we look to Jesus, our faith pierces the shadow, and we adore God for His wondrous love in giving Jesus the Comforter.” {19 MR 297.3}

--John 16:7: Why could the Comforter not come unless Christ left? –

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

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

Acts 2:32-33 “This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.”

“The more abundant impartation of the Spirit did not take place till after Christ’s ascension. Not until this was received could the disciples fulfill the commission to preach the gospel to the world. Before the disciples could fulfill their official duties in connection with the church, Christ breathed His Spirit upon them. He was committing to them a most sacred trust, and He desired to impress them with the fact that without the Holy Spirit this work could not be accomplished. The Holy Spirit is the breath of spiritual life in the soul. The impartation of the Spirit is the impartation of the life of Christ. It imbues the receiver with the attributes of Christ.” {Desire of Ages, p. 805 par. 2-3}

"The Father is all the fulness of the Godhead bodily, and is invisible to mortal sight. The Son is all the fulness of the Godhead manifested. The Word of God declares Him to be “the express image of His person.” “God so loved the world,

that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” Here is shown the personality of the Father. The Comforter that Christ promised to send after He ascended to heaven, is the Spirit in all the fulness of the Godhead, making manifest the power of divine grace to all who receive and believe in Christ as a personal Saviour. There are three living persons of the heavenly trio; in the name of these three great powers—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—those who receive Christ by living faith are baptized, and these powers will co-operate with the obedient subjects of heaven in their efforts to live the new life in Christ." {SpTB07 62.3-63.2}

“Christ is everything to those who receive Him. He is their Comforter, their safety, their healthfulness.” {21MR 372.1}

--John 16:8-16: How does the Spirit of truth not speak of Himself? –

John 16:8-16 “And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged. I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you. A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me, because I go to the Father.”

John 12:49 “For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.”

Revelation 2:29 “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”

“There is no comforter like Christ, so tender and so true. He is touched with the feeling of our infirmities. His Spirit speaks to the heart.” {Review and Herald, Oct. 26, 1897.15}

“Jesus is ever ready to speak peace to souls that are burdened with doubts and fears. He waits for us to open the door of the heart to Him, and say, Abide with us. He says, “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.”
Revelation 3:20.” {Desire of Ages, p. 803}

--John 16:25: Did Christ speak of the Comforter in proverbs?--

John 16:25 “These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: (Greek: paroimia = parables) but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father.”

John 10:2-4, 14-16 “2 But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. 4 And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. 5 And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers. 6 This parable (Greek: paroimia) spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them.... 14 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. 15 As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.”

“The Saviour is our Comforter. This I have proved Him to be.” {8MR 49.3}

“The thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth chapters of John need careful study and earnest practice if we honor God and Jesus Christ whom He has sent.” {Lt16j-1892.3}

“Jesus now set before them the contrast between them and the Good Shepherd, and He pointed to Himself as the real keeper of the Lord’s flock. Before doing this, however, He speaks of Himself under another figure.” {Desire of Ages, p. 477}

--Why do we need to accept Christ as our Comforter? Christ is the only One able to keep us from succumbing to sin, and make us righteous. Replacing His Spirit with someone instead of Christ, is receiving another spirit.

John 15:5 “I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.”

Hebrews 2:18 “For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.”

Revelation 3:18 “I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.”

“The reason why the churches are weak and sickly and ready to die, is that the enemy has brought influences of a discouraging nature to bear upon trembling souls. He has sought to shut Jesus from their view as the Comforter, as one who reproves, who warns, who admonishes them, saying, 'This is the way, walk ye in it.' Christ has all power in heaven and in earth, and he can strengthen the wavering, and set right the erring.” {RH, Aug. 26, 1890, par. 10}

“The nights are long and painful, but Jesus is my Comforter and my Hope.”
{19MR 296.2}

In Sum

Christ is the Comforter, because He promised that He will come to us by manifesting Himself to us. How? It is a spiritual manifestation. Christ is the truth, and so the Spirit of truth is the Spirit of Christ. The disciples asked Christ: how will You manifest Yourself to us and not to the world? Thus, they knew Christ was referring to Himself, not someone else. The apostles confirmed this by declaring the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Christ, and that Christ lives in you. Christ confirmed this, because He declares He is the One knocking on the door of your heart.

CHAPTER 6: THE BOOK OF LIFE

The dreadful consequence for accepting the false gospel in lieu of the everlasting gospel, is being removed from the book of life. The Lord Jesus Christ proclaimed that if anyone adds to or takes away from the book of Revelation, God will remove that person from the book of life.

Revelation 22:18-19 “For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.”

“”For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book.... He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.” We see from these words the necessity of sacredly cherishing every ray of light that the Lord Jesus sends to His church on the earth.” {AUCR October 7, 1907, par. 21-22}

We must study Revelation, so that we can stand strong in the light of truth that the Lord Jesus sends to us.

What does Revelation reveal? It reveals that Jesus Christ is the only One equal with God, for only God and His Son receive worship and rule the kingdom of heaven.

Revelation 5:13 “And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, **and** unto the Lamb for ever and ever.”

Revelation 11:15 “And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.”

Revelation 12:10 “And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ:

for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.”

Revelation 22: 1-3 “And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:”

“Since the divine law is as sacred as God Himself, only one equal with God could make atonement for its transgression. None but Christ could redeem fallen man from the curse of the law and bring him again into harmony with Heaven.”

{Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 63}

“He, the Majesty of heaven, the Son of the living God, the One equal with the Father, came to our world to stand by the side of fallen beings, through His sacrifice giving value to humanity.” {Ms96-1902.32}

“Herein is the love of God made manifest. The only begotten Son of God, one equal with the Father, alone could make an atonement for sin.” {Ms25-1898.19}

Revelation, thus, confirms what Christ had proclaimed in His prayer. Before the world was, Christ was the One who shared glory with the only true God.

John 17:5 “These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.”

The trinity doctrine adds to Revelation by claiming that the Holy Spirit is not actually the Spirit of God, but a third being equal with God and Christ.

Revelation confirms that the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, which Christ shares with His Father; it is not someone else.

Revelation 3:1 “And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.”

Revelation 4:5 “And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.”

Revelation 5:6 “And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.”

“The Father gave his Spirit without measure to his Son, and we also may partake of its fulness.” {RH, Nov. 5, 1908.4}

“In giving us His Spirit, God gives us Himself, making Himself a fountain of divine influence to give life to the world.” {Lt96-1902.31}

“Cumbered with humanity, Christ could not be in every place personally; therefore it was altogether for their advantage that He should leave them, go to His father, and send the Holy Spirit to be His successor on earth. The Holy Spirit is Himself divested of the personality of humanity and independent thereof. He would represent Himself as present in all places by His Holy Spirit, as the Omnipresent.” {14MR 23.3}

What about Matthew 28:19? This verse is about baptism. It does not even have the word “God.” It means that the Father and the Son will make Their abode with you once you are baptized with the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19-20 “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”

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.”

Acts 1:5 “For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.”

“Go, ye therefore,” He said, “and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father (a personal God) and of the Son (a personal Prince and Saviour), and of the Holy Ghost (sent from heaven to represent Christ); teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.” {Ms41-1897.34}

“While Jesus ministers in the sanctuary above, He is still by His Spirit the minister of the church on earth. He is withdrawn from the eye of sense, but His parting promise is fulfilled, “Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.” Matthew 28:20. While He delegates His power to inferior ministers, His energizing presence is still with His church.” {Desire of Ages, p. 166}

What about 1 John 5:7? Let’s look at the context. How are the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit one? They all bare the same testimony that Jesus is the Son of God.

1 John 5:5-7, 11, 20 “Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God? This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth. For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.... And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.... 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.”

Matthew 3:17 “And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

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?”

1 Peter 1:11 “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.”

“The only Being who was one with God, lived the law in humanity, descended to the lowly life of a common laborer, & toiled at the carpenter's bench with His earthly parent. {ST, Oct 14, 1897, par. 3}

“Christ the Word, the Only Begotten of God, was one with the eternal Father,—one in nature, in character, and in purpose,—the only being in all the universe that could enter into all the counsels and purposes of God.” {The Great Controversy, p. 493}

“The Saviour had spoken through all the prophets. “The Spirit of Christ which was in them” “testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.” 1 Peter 1:11.” {Desire of Ages, p. 234}

“From eternity there was a complete unity between the Father and the Son. They were two, yet little short of being identical; two in individuality, yet one in spirit, and heart, and character.” {YI Dec. 16, 1897, par. 5}

In Sum

Revelation shows that Christ is the only One equal with God, as God and His Son alone receive worship and rule heaven. It also confirms that the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, which God shares with His Son; it is not someone else. Adding a third being to be worshipped violates Revelation.

Tying it all back to the everlasting gospel, the only way to be in the book of life is to stay true to Revelation – giving glory to God by worshipping His only begotten Son Jesus Christ.

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

““I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.” Revelation 21:22. The people of God are privileged to hold open communion with the Father and the Son.” {The Great Controversy, p. 676}

“Jehovah, our Father, and His Son, Jesus Christ, are alone to be exalted” {Ms11-1898.11}

Will you accept the everlasting gospel? Will you exalt the Father and the Son alone by giving glory to God through worshipping His only begotten Son Jesus Christ?

Revelation 7:10 “And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.”