

The Breath of Almighty God

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One of the hidden mysteries of Almighty God is how His Spirit works throughout His creation. To begin with, many people have assumed that the Spirit of Almighty God is an entity, or person, that exists independently, or is a being that is distinct from God, the Father. This is an erroneous pagan doctrine that has infiltrated much of the Christian world (see study: The Doctrine of the Trinity: A Provable Fact or Deeply Embedded Fiction). As scripture reveals, the Spirit of Almighty God is the power that comes from Him and it is used to accomplish His plans,

You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; and You renew the face of the earth (Ps. 104:30; cf. Job 26:13, 33:4; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted).

Those who claim that the Spirit of Almighty God is a separate and independent entity, or person, are in a state of idolatry because they have created another god, which is contrary to the following commandment,

You shall have no other gods before Me (Ex. 20:3).

Both the First and Second Covenant writings confirm that Almighty God delegated responsibility for utilizing His Spirit, for the creation of all things, to a spirit-being who would become known by the first century CE as Jesus Christ,

He (Jesus Christ) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things (cf. Prov.8:22-36), and in him all things consist. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning (Rev. 3:14), the firstborn from the dead, that in all things he may have preeminence (Col. 1:15-18; cf. Jn. 1:3-5, Heb. 1:8-9; Ed. notes in parentheses).

However, the spirit-being who later became Jesus Christ created nothing apart from the express will of his God and Father,

Then Jesus answered and said to them (Jewish religious leaders), 'Most assuredly, I say to you, the son can do nothing of himself, but what he sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the son also does in like manner' (Jn. 5:19; cf. 5:30; 8:26, 40; 10:32; 15:15; Ed. notes in parentheses).

Therefore, the spirit-being who became Jesus Christ followed his Father's instructions "to the letter." In order to complete all the tasks given to him, Christ used his Father's power in the manner necessary to accomplish whatever task was at hand. In the creation of Adam and all his descendants, Christ formed "the spirit in man" which is unique to every individual,

But there is a spirit in man, and the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding (Job 32:8; cf. 33:4).

If Almighty God were to direct Christ to extinguish mankind from the earth, the spirit in man would be removed and they would cease to exist forever, unless there was a future resurrection from the dead in His plan,

If He should set His heart on it, if He should gather to Himself His Spirit and His breath, ¹⁵ all flesh would perish together, and man would return to dust (Job 34:14-15; cf. Jas. 2:26a).

So this “spirit in man” is **not** immortal. Instead, it ceases to function upon the death of an individual,

His (an individual’s) spirit departs, he returns to his earth; in that very day his plans perish (Ps. 146:4; cf. Eccl. 8:8; 12:7; Ed. note in parenthesis).

You hide Your face, they are dismayed; **You take away their spirit, they expire and return to their dust** (Ps 104:29; NASB, emphasis added).

King Solomon pondered whether this spirit in man returned to God following someone’s death. Even if this occurs, it does not maintain any consciousness (Eccl. 9:5). Those who believe there is a future resurrection of the dead could speculate that the spirit in man is held in spiritual storage awaiting Christ’s command (cf. 1Cor. 15:13-28; 35-58),

Who knows whether the spirit of the sons of men goes upward, and whether the spirit of the beast goes down to the earth? (Eccl. 3:21; LXX).

When each person receives this “spirit in man”, they are given the ability to question things and acquire knowledge, whether it is accurate or inaccurate,

For what man knows the things of a man except (by) the spirit of man which is in him? (1Cor. 2:11a; Ed. note in parenthesis).

It is also through this “spirit in man” that God bestows specific skills and abilities, some of which can be very creative and inspiring,

And Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every gifted artisan in whom the Lord has put wisdom and understanding, to know how to do all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary (holy place), shall do according to all that the Lord commanded (Ex. 36:1ff; Ed. note in parenthesis).

This “spirit in man” seeks to understand what lies beyond this short physical life. However, it is not capable of correctly understanding what God is working out,

He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, **He has put eternity in their hearts**, except that **no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end** (Eccl. 3:11; emphasis added).

... a man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun. For though a man labors to discover it, yet he will not find it; moreover, though a wise man attempts to know it, he will not be able to find it (Eccl. 8:17b).

With only the “spirit of man” present in an individual, they will not accept the truth of God because their primary focus in life is based on physical goals and pursuits, which inevitably come into conflict with the values of Almighty God,

Because the carnal mind is enmity (hostile) against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God (Rom. 8:7-8; Ed. note in parenthesis).

Therefore, every flesh and blood human being is an incomplete creation. For mankind to reach its full potential, a missing component must be added that allows everyone to understand the work that Almighty God is doing. However, when Stephen explained what this missing component is, he also confirmed that the spirit in man always refuses to accept it and submit to it,

You stiff-necked (stubborn) and uncircumcised in heart and ears! **You always resist the Holy Spirit**; as your fathers did, so do you (Ac. 7:51; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

Therefore, Almighty God’s Holy Spirit must be added to the “spirit in man” in order for anyone to understand spiritual truths, including why we were born and where we are going when this physical life ends,

But the helper (comforter), the Holy Spirit, which the Father will send in my (Christ’s) name, it will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all (the) things that I said to you (Jn. 14:26; Ed. notes in parentheses).

So the dilemma is as follows. Everyone that has the “spirit in man” must also receive God’s Holy Spirit in order to understand, and reach, their full potential. Left to themselves, human beings will resist what God’s Holy Spirit attempts to teach them. Therefore, prior to any spiritual instruction taking place, Almighty God must choose to lead an individual to see their stubborn and sinful human nature for what it is, and the damage it causes. This is a humbling process that is referred to as repentance,

...the goodness of (Almighty) God leads you to repentance (Rom. 2:4b; Ed. note in parenthesis).

No one can come to me (Christ) **unless the Father** who sent me **draws him** ... (Jn. 6:44a, 65; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

Following genuine repentance, and baptism for one’s sins, an individual will receive God’s Holy Spirit,

Then Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission (forgiveness) of (your) sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Ac. 2:38; Ed. notes in parentheses).

Once in receipt of God’s Holy Spirit, an individual has the potential of inheriting everlasting life; providing they do not “quench” the Holy Spirit at a later date (Mt. 10:22; 24:13; Mk. 13:13; 1Thes. 5:19; Heb. 10:26),

Jesus answered, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water (following repentance and baptism) and the (Holy) Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God (Jn. 3:5; Ed. notes in parentheses).

But if the (Holy) Spirit of Him (the Father) who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit which dwells in you (Rom. 8:11; Ed. notes in parentheses).

When God's Holy Spirit is combined with the "spirit in man", an individual can begin understanding spiritual truths,

But as it is written "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." ¹⁰ But God has revealed them to us through His (Holy) Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes the deep things of God (1Cor. 2:9-10ff; Ed. note in parenthesis).

The "heart of man" mentioned in the scripture above is used metaphorically to describe the stubborn nature of the "spirit in man", which prevents him from correctly understanding God's truth. Thankfully, everyone will eventually have this stubbornness dealt with either during this lifetime or the second resurrection (Rev. 20:5-6),

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh (i.e. more humble and teachable). ²⁷ I will put My (Holy) Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them (Eze. 36:26-27; Ed. notes in parentheses).

Jesus Christ utilizes his Father's Holy Spirit as the means through which he teaches those who are given to him following their repentance and baptism,

I (Christ) will not leave you orphans; I will come to you (Jn. 14:18; Ed. note in parenthesis).

At that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you (Jn. 14:20).

Jesus answered and said to him (Judas – not Iscariot), 'If anyone loves me, he will keep my word; and my Father will love him and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me does not keep my words; and the word which you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me (Jn. 14:23-24; Ed. note in parenthesis).

Prior to receiving God's Holy Spirit, Christ's disciples understood that he was their delegated master and teacher,

You call me teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am (Jn. 13:13).

And do not be called teachers; for one is your teacher, the Christ (Mt. 23:10).

As Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever (Heb. 13:8), he has always been Almighty God's delegated spokesman and teacher,

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with (toward, or alongside) God (the Father) and the Word was (a) god (i.e. a heavenly being; cf. Ps. 82:6; Jn. 10:34). ² He was in the beginning with God (the Father) (Jn. 1:1-2; Ed. notes in parentheses).

In this important role, Christ would have taught those who were meant to understand God's truth and obey it during the First Covenant,

Then I (Christ; cf. Jn. 5:37) will come down and talk with you there. I will take the Spirit that is upon you (Moses) and will put the same upon them (seventy elders); and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, that you may not bear it alone (Nu. 11:17; Ed. notes in parentheses).

The Spirit that was upon Moses was God's Holy Spirit and not the "spirit in man". Moses already had the "spirit in man"; otherwise he would not have been alive. Without access to God's Holy Spirit, Moses and the elders would be incapable of correctly interpreting and administering the law and commandments of God. As discussed previously this is only possible when the Holy Spirit unites with the "spirit in man" (Rom. 8:7),

And you (Moses) shall teach them (the Israelites) the statutes and the laws, and show them the way in which they must walk and the work they must do.²¹ Moreover you shall select from all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them to be rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.²² And let them judge the people at all times. Then it will be that every great matter they shall bring to you, but every small matter they themselves shall judge. So it will be easier for you, for they will bear the burden with you (Ex. 18:20-22; Ed. notes in parentheses).

Again, Almighty God begins the process of instruction that leads an individual to the point of repentance (Neh. 9:20a; Ps. 65:4), and following their baptism they are given to Christ for their continued instruction and edification,

It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Therefore **everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me (Christ)** (Jn. 6:45; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

All that the Father gives me (Christ) will come to me, and the one who comes to me I will by no means cast out.³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of Him who sent me.³⁹ This is the will of the Father who sent me, that of all He has given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day (Jn. 6:37-39; cf. 11:25; 2Pet. 3:9; Ed. note in parenthesis).

In order for Christ to fulfill his job of teaching those who are called to repentance, he must utilize his Father's Holy Spirit as he did with Moses and the seventy elders,

But when the helper (comforter) comes, **which I (Christ) shall send to you** from the Father, the Spirit of truth which proceeds from the Father, it will testify of me (Jn. 15:26; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, **he (Christ) poured out this which you now see and hear** (Ac. 2:33; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

However, Christ will only use the Holy Spirit in a manner that reflects the exact will of his Father,

However, when it, the Spirit of truth, has come, it will guide you into all truth; for **it will not speak on its own authority**, but whatever it hears it will speak; and it will tell you things to come. ¹⁴ It will glorify me, for it will take of what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All things that the Father has are mine. Therefore I said that it will take of mine and declare it to you (Jn. 16:13-15; emphasis added).

Therefore, as Christ works with and directs the Holy Spirit in the lives of people that Almighty God gave him, fruits of righteousness will be seen,

And if Christ is (working) in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the (Holy) Spirit is life because of (the) righteousness (it produces) (Rom. 8:10; Ed. notes in parentheses).

But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him (1Cor. 6:17; cf. Jn. 17:20-26; Rom. 8:9; 1Cor. 12:13; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 4:4; Php.1:27; emphasis added).

When Christ is actively involved with teaching someone, his mind is connected to that individual through the Holy Spirit that is shared by both parties,

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus (Php. 2:5).

And because you are sons, **God** (the Father) **has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts**, crying out, 'Abba, Father!' ⁷ Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God (Gal. 4:6; cf. 6:18; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

For I (Paul) know that this will turn out for my salvation through your prayer and **the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ** (Php. 1:19; Ed. note in parenthesis, emphasis added).

As Christ continues his work, everyone who is taught by him will grow in grace and knowledge (2Pet. 3:18; Phm.1:25). Consequently, the relationship between an individual and Almighty God is strengthened,

For through him (Christ) we both have access by one Spirit to the Father (Eph. 2:17; Ed. note in parenthesis).

It is important to note that Christ also utilized the Holy Spirit when he worked with the prophets during the First Covenant,

Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace (forgiveness) that would come to you, ¹¹ searching what, or what manner of time, **the Spirit of Christ that was in them** was indicating when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow (1Pet. 1:10-11; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

With Christ using his Father's Holy Spirit in the lives of repentant individuals, the missing component is added to the "spirit in man" that allows a new creation to develop. This new creation has the potential to inherit the kingdom of God and live forever,

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new (2Cor. 5:17).

In conclusion, it is imperative that every repentant person continues to live in newness of life (Rom. 6:4), which includes a willingness to trust and obey every word of God that Christ imparts to those who have been given to him (Mt. 4:4). Ignoring or neglecting

what Christ is doing will result in quenching the Holy Spirit, if an individual insists on remaining in this state (1Thes. 5:19; Heb. 10:26). However, through Christ we have been given the opportunity to receive everlasting life from the resurrection of the dead by the power of Almighty God's Holy Spirit (Jn. 6:39-40, 44; Rom. 8:11).

This document is the collaborative work of individuals who believe God's truth should be given freely (Mt. 10:8; 1Cor. 2:12; 2Cor. 11:7; Rom. 10:14-21) and the message of the one true God should be made available to all nations (Mt. 24:14) as a prerequisite to the return of Jesus Christ as King of kings (Mt. 17:10; 19:17; Mk. 9:11; Lk. 1:17; Rev. 19:11-16).

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