Sunday School Lesson......The Works of the Holy Spirit (#23rd Lesson) Lesson # 1 The Drawing of the Holy Spirit

We have now studied Twenty Three Lessons on the Holy Spirit beginning 8 lessons ago on the <u>Work of the Holy Spirit</u> remembering the Lord Jesus Christ told us what the Work on the Spirit would do after He (Jesus) prayed the Father for The Advent of the Holy Spirit. This was done by Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane prayer where in <u>Luke Chapter 22</u> "He goes a little farther" (leaving all the disciples behind while James, John, and Peter) then He "goes a little farther" and His three watching disciples fall asleep (at least James and Peter fall asleep) while it is unknown whether John stays attentive and hears the petitions and content then discussed in detail John Chapters 14- through the longest dissertation of the Lord Jesus written the gospel. Or whether John sleeps and the Holy Spirit recalls to His mind the petitions of the Lord Jesus including the tasks assigned to the Holy Spirit after The Advent of the Holy Spirit's coming recorded by Luke in <u>Acts Chapter Two.</u> 06/08/25

Since the Lesson on the Advent we have covered the following topics:

- THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT A Major Lesson Broadly Covering the Tasks Jesus Outlined as the Work of the Spirit: (mentioned above)
 - <u>THE HOLY SPIRIT REGENERATING</u> Lessons Detailing Specific Work How the Process of Regeneration Works toward Salvation including:
 - 1. <u>THE SPIRIT QUICKENING</u> Lessons on the Moving of the Holy Spirit on both the Elect of God and the non-Elect of God as well as the movement of the Spirit on events.
 - 2. <u>THE SPIRIT ENLIGHTENING</u> Lessons on How the Spirit Enlightens Us with Spiritual Knowledge.
 - 3. <u>THE SPIRIT CONVICTING</u> Lessons Detailing How the Spirit Pricks (punctures our Spiritual Heart) to the Conviction of Sin that we might Receive the Gospel Message of Jesus Christ.
 - <u>THE SPIRIT COMFORTING</u> We have just finished two lessons on how the Spirit Comforts each of us in our Spiritual hours of need which is both a part of the work of the Spirit in Salvation and after salvation.

Our plan (if the Lord allows us to teach the follow subjects regarding the Holy Spirit's Work while still being drawn by the Saints at our Church and thus directed by the Lord of Lords and King of Kings the Lord Jesus Christ including:

- THE REMAINING WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:
 - THE SPIRIT DRAWING
 - THE SPIRIT WORKING FAITH
 - THE SPIRIT UNITING TO CHRIST
 - THE SPIRIT INDWELLING
 - THE SPIRIT TEACHING
 - THE SPIRIT CLEANSING
 - THE SPIRIT LEADING
 - THE SPIRIT ASSURING
 - THE SPIRIT WITNESSING
 - THE SPIRIT SEALING

- THE SPIRIT ASSISTING
- THE SPIRIT INTERCEDING
- THE SPIRIT TRANSFORMING
- THE SPIRIT PRESERVING
- THE SPIRIT CONFIRMING
- THE SPIRIT FRUCTIFYING*
- THE SPIRIT ENDOWING*
- HONORING THE SPIRIT

** THE SPIRIT FRUCTIFYING is closely related to a study in our Wednesday night Several weeks ago AND THE SPIRIT ENDOWING is directly related to the study we have been involved with in studying the GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT, I feel led of the Lord to pull both these topic out of the Sunday School Lesson and insert both in Wednesday night study immediately. This is give continuity to our Wednesday study as well as giving me a greater opportunity to finish both.

Unless otherwise led by the Holy Spirit the final lesson will be the HONORING of the HOLY SPIRIT and it is my desire and the leadership of the Holy Spirit that each of us determine in our own heart and mind how we can Honor the Holy Spirit in our daily life. I would suggest a list of at least five things in each of life. (Sharing Those with someone or several someone's ones is highly suggested)

Realizing my opportunity to develop another series such as this seems unlikely; I feel compelled and have a pressing need for a clear and full exposition of the Spirit's work of grace in the souls of God's people. It is a subject which occupies a place of considerable prominence in the Scriptures—far more so than many are aware—and yet, sad to say, it is grievously neglected by most preachers and writers of today; and, in consequence, the saints are to a large extent ignorant upon it. The ignorance of the subject seems to begin in the individual with a lack of understanding in the Holy Spirit's drawing of the individual which is the reason for the brief review above.

REASONS FOR IGNORANCE OF THE SPIRIT'S DRAWING

The supernatural and special work of the Holy Spirit in the soul is that which distinguishes the regenerated from the unregenerate.

1. The religion of the vast majority of people today consists merely in an outward show, having a name of Christian to live among men, but being spiritually dead toward God. Their religion comprises little more than bare speculative notions, merely knowing the Word in its letter; in an undue attachment to some man or party or denomination; in a attendance to a building which is not according to knowledge of the Word; or in sincere contending for a certain order of special things, despising all who do not rightly pronounce their particular standards of righteousness. The fear of God is not upon most, the love of God does not fill and rule many of our hearts, the power of God is not working in many of our souls, prayers or practices toward God are a matter of task rather than devotion and love. The aspects of the devotion and continuous study of the Holy Spirit of most who claim the *Christian Bramd* have never been the favored subjects of the Spirit's quickening operation. (Quickening Short Review: Quickening is the leading to a renewed devotion, a deepened understanding of God's Word, and a revitalized relationship with Christ. To quicken also means a reviving, a refreshing, an increasing of life. The true quickening of the Spirit in the mortal body makes it eternal and incorruptible, not subject to death and corruption.

- "No man can come to Me, except the Father which hath sent Me draw him; and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:44).
- 2. This emphatic and man-humbling fact is almost universally ignored in Christendom today, and when it is pressed upon the notice of the average preacher or "church member," it is hotly denied and scornfully rejected. Each Church is assured in their own mind they are the exception Church to the one in four who have actually been drawn by the Holy Spirit and to suggest otherwise is rejected.
- 3. The cry is at once raised, "If that were true (*no man cometh to Me,....except the Father draw them*) then man is nothing more than a machine, and all preaching is useless. If people are unable to come to Christ by an act of their own will, then evangelistic effort is needless, worthless." No effort is made to understand the meaning of those words of our Lord: they clash with modern thought, they rile the proud flesh, so they are summarily condemned and dismissed. No wonder the Holy Spirit is now "quenched" in so many places, and that His saving power is so rarely in evidence.
- 4. With others the supernatural agency of the Spirit is effectually shut out by the belief that Truth will prevail or the religious thinking that if the Word of God be faithfully preached, souls will be truly saved. Far be it from us to reject or undervalue the Truth, or cast the slightest reflection on the living Word of God; vet modern ideas and present conditions demand that we plainly point out that it is not the Truth. The Scriptures, the Gospel, which renews the soul; but it is instead, the power and operations of the Holy Spirit to draw all men unto Christ. You may teach a man the holiest of truths and yet leave him a wretched man lost, undone, and without salvation. Many who learn in childhood that 'God is love,' live disregarding that fact, and die blaspheming God by the lostness of God's love in their unsaved life. Thousands who are carefully taught, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved,' neglect so great salvation all their days. Some of the most wicked and miserable beings that walk the earth are men into whose consciences, while yet youthful and unsophisticated, are unsaved by the drawing of the Holy Spirit, but have the truth that was carefully instilled. "Unmindful of this and not considering the danger of diverting faith from the power to the instrument (the Holy Ghost), however beautiful and perfect the instrument may be, many good men, by a culpable inadvertence, constantly speak as if the Truth had an inherent ascendance over man and would certainly prevail when justly presented rather than accept the simple truth of John 6:44 "No man can come to Me, except the Father which hath sent Me draw him; and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:44).

(Continued next lesson)