

# THE TRUE IDENTITY AND OUR DESTINY

A Revelation step by step

SAMIR STEPHAN KUJUR

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# **DEDICATION**

**This book is dedicated to the Almighty God who inspires, reveals, guides and takes care of me throughout my journey.**

# ABOUT THE BOOK

Have you ever asked yourself, “Who am I?” By not knowing the answer to the question, “Who am I?” we keep on creating new identities of ourselves, consequently going farther away from our true Selves. All the suffering in life is because of not knowing our [true identity](#). Moreover, until we realize our true Selves, we believe ourselves to be the name that has been given to us.

Another important question comes in our mind – “what will happen to me once my body dies?” We all agree that we as human to be born, to live our lives, then to die physically. Death of our flesh is a reality of life.

There are many beliefs and theories about [life after death](#) of the flesh. All the major theories and beliefs after death of the flesh are of the view that the human [soul](#) is immortal, that is the soul lives forever. If the human soul is immortal, where does it go after death of [the body](#)? What happens to it?

What is God’s Plan? The predetermined plan of God, by definition, was formulated before the foundation of the world (Acts 2:23). There is a notion among men that God’s plan had an original intent, but then something ruined God’s plan.

God is perfect. He reveals His perfections through His words and works. Everything God does must conform to this attribute. In other words, God can do no wrong. For this reason, it is impossible for God to fail.

If we want to know what should have happened at the beginning, then we must go to the end, as God said, ***“So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it”***. (Isaiah 55:11) [The Devil](#) can delay God’s plan, but he cannot change it.

The author has tried to find the answers to the above questions. This book will help you to understand the God’s purpose in creation of human beings, their [true identity](#) and [destiny](#). Moreover, it will also help you to know the way to reach your [final destination](#).



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## CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION



### IDENTITY CRISIS





## 1.0 Identity Crisis

Over the course of our lives, each person's identity is formed and shaped through individual experiences, relationships, culture, media and the world around us. We are constantly defining who we are in any way we can.

One of the richest passages about identity in [the Bible](#) is found in Ephesians 1:3-14. In this passage, Paul addresses the church in Ephesus, explaining the new identity given to a person when they are in [Messiah](#).

“Believers in Messiah selfhood is not defined in terms of who we are in and of ourselves. It's defined in terms of what God does to us and the relationship He creates with us and the destiny He appoints for us. God made us who we are so we could make known who He is. Our identity is for the sake of making known His identity.”

If we're honest with ourselves, we often feel insecure. Those who hide it best often feel it most. But our insecurity is an invitation from God to escape the danger of false beliefs about who we are and find true peace in who He is.

According to Ephesians 1, we have been blessed with every spiritual blessing; we have been chosen, adopted, redeemed, forgiven, grace-lavished and unconditionally loved and accepted. We are pure, blameless and forgiven. We have received the hope of spending eternity with God. When we are in [Messiah](#), these aspects of our identity can never be altered by what we do.

*“We are not to look to what men in themselves deserve but to attend to the image of God which exists in all and to which we owe all honor and love.”*

*– John Calvin, Institutes of the Christian Religion*

Then God said, “Let us make MAN in our image, to be like us. MAN will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground.”

So, God created MAN in His own image. In His image He created [MAN; male and female](#) He created them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them,

*“Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.”*

*– Genesis 1: 26-28*

Often, however, a gap exists between intellectually knowing these truths about who God says we are and living them out. This can be affected by how we see ourselves, life experiences and the ways we allow the world to define us.

In order to live out of the fullness of our new identity in Messiah, we must determine what hinders us from doing so. That varies from person to person.

Often, a false belief has wedged itself between how God defines us and seeing ourselves in the same light. For example, the opposite of “pure and blameless” would be “impure, stained or guilty.” Perhaps a life experience has caused us to feel impure, so we believe God sees us this way. We, then, create and live out of an identity based on our actions, which is contrary to how God sees us.

In order to fight against these false beliefs, we must discover the exact belief we are allowing to negatively form our identity. According to Ephesians 1, we may see ourselves as:

- Rejected instead of accepted.
- In chains instead of set free.
- Under the law instead of covered by grace.
- Orphaned instead of adopted.

Living out of one of those identities then affects our behaviors.

If we still think we are under the law, we may think we must “do” more for God in order to be right with Him. We may bury ourselves in ministry or service or other good works instead of resting in the knowledge that [Yeshua](#) has done everything necessary to bring us into good favor with God in a permanent way.

God has given us everything that we need to demolish strongholds or false beliefs, and He empowers us to do so.

If we live out of an identity based on how God sees us, we no longer feel the need to find our worth in our external circumstances.

**So, who am I?** Our answers will be something like one of them as given below depending upon the context and situation:

Defining Parameters	Examples
Relationship	<a href="#">I am...</a> Son, Daughter, Husband, Wife, Father, Mother and so on...
Social or Racial Classification	<a href="#">I am...</a> Tribe, Gentile, Black, White and so on...
Religion	<a href="#">I am...</a> Christian, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Budhist, Jain and so on...
Nationality	<a href="#">I am...</a> American, British, Indian, Pakistani and so on...
Educational Qualification	<a href="#">I am...</a> Illiterate, Literate, Undergraduate, Graduate, Post Graduate and so on..
Profession	<a href="#">I am...</a> Doctor, Engineer, Scientist, Social Worker and so on...
Designation or Position	<a href="#">I am...</a> Support Staff, Programme Staff, Officer, Manager, Director, President and so on...
Stages of Life Cycles	<a href="#">I am...</a> Child, Youth, Adult & Old Aged

So, all our identities, everything we believe ourselves to be, are all dependent on something else. So then, who am I?

By not knowing the answer to the question, “[Who am I?](#)” we keep on creating new identities of ourselves, consequently going farther away from our true selves. All the suffering in life is because of not knowing our true identity. Moreover, until we realize our true selves, we believe ourselves to be the name that has been given to us.

In reality, I am the being... the eternal [SOUL](#), and the name, relationships, titles or positions are for my [BODY](#) that all are acquired over the period of time. BODY consciousness creates EGO.

They are all mine, but they are not ‘I’. When I am not aware of my true identity as SOUL, I identify myself with everything that I acquired. So, I constantly feel superior, inferior, more important, or less important than others – it is like an image I create about my identity.

Any image which is not my true identity or the true identity of others is EGO. Actually, EGO is the attachment to the false image of the self. When we attach ourselves to the position, title or power as given in the above defining parameters then we stop connecting to the real self.

If we get disturbed, our ego is getting affected. When in ego we create a false image of our identity and react if someone says anything against that image.

When I see myself as a [SOUL](#) then I should understand that everyone is a SOUL playing their roles in different positions, titles or powers in their different costumes.

It frees us up to live confidently and stably instead of changing who we are based on the opinions of others, our professional success, how we see ourselves, and all the other ways we define our significance. It gives us the opportunity to experience God’s unconditional love in new and fresh ways. And it allows us to confidently and boldly share His love with others.

It is certainly a battle as we live in a world that seeks to define us by its own standards. But the battle is worth it because as we fight it, the world around us changes.

At the heart of what it means to be a believer of [Messiah](#) is to receive a new identity. In [Yeshua](#), we do not lose our true selves, but we become our true selves, only in Him.

We cannot experience anything greater than the fullness of union with [Messiah](#). Nothing reaches higher or is more theologically comprehensive.

In [Messiah](#), we are fundamentally new, and belong to the people of heaven. The language and values and customs and expectations of this world increasingly feel foreign to us. We have been [born again](#) for another world, to a greater kind of existence.

## 1.2 The Final Destination

The human personality is made up of [Body, Soul and Spirit](#). The Body needs food, water, exercise, but what about the Soul and the Spirit? It is no good we ignore addressing these issues or to simply dismiss them as myth or nonsense; because eternity is part of the human personality. We need to know where exactly [our soul will depart to after death of the body](#).

There are many beliefs and theories about the human [soul](#) and many great thinkers have sought to understand this aspect of the human personality. All the major theories and beliefs about the human soul are of the view that the human soul is immortal, that is the soul lives forever. If the human soul is immortal, [where does it go after death of the body?](#)

Several years ago, there was a series of scary movies called “Final Destination”. In that movie, death stalked – and usually got – the characters. What made the movie interesting is that it made death out to be an entity, and evil being that chased and tried to destroy people.

Death is not an entity. Death is a reality of life. It is human to be born, to live our lives, then to die physically. When we die physically, our soul goes to another place, another state, another home. Death is not the cessation of life, but a door by which we enter another place. [The Bible](#) says:

Hebrews 9:27-28 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Messiah was once offered to bear the sins of many.

Everyone has an appointment that we must make. That appointment is the time of our physical death. Yet this physical death is not the end of life itself, but the transfer of our souls from this container we call a “body”, to another place.

[Yeshua the Messiah](#) died, bearing our sins on His body on the tree of Calvary, so that after our physical death we can go and be with God our Father. No one ever actually ceases to be. You cease to be HERE, but if you are a follower of Messiah, as Yeshua said,

John 12:26 ... where I am, there shall also my servant be ...

When we leave this life, our soul will have a final destination, a final judgment. Every human being, the living and the dead will be judged by Yeshua at his glorious second coming (Matthew 25:31-46). God makes it clear that no one has an excuse for not seeking him. See Romans 1:1-16 for Paul's explanation of God's final judgement. Everyone who has not received Yeshua as their personal saviour will still perish (2 Peter 3:1-18). Moreover, in John 3:16 we read, “For God so loved the world, that he gave His only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life”.

Going to seminary or any theological college won't get us "[born again](#)." Being born at home and growing up in seminary won't get us saved. Living in a theocracy, or a state that calls itself "Christian" won't cause the Lord to "know" us (Matthew 7; Matthew 25; Luke 13). On that day most of us will say, "Lord I went to church all my life, I grew up singing in the choir, I was an altar boy, I went to confession every day, I gave alms, I preached, I prayed for sinners...." And He will say 'I never knew you.'

Out west there is a tombstone, and on it the words:

*Pause, stranger, when you pass me by,*

*For as you are, so once was I.*

*As I am now, so you will be,*

*Prepare to die, and follow me.*

## CHAPTER 2: THE FIRST MAN – MALE AND FEMALE



## 2.1 Introduction

“And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole [spirit and soul and body](#) be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord [Yeshua the Messiah](#)” (1 Thessalonians 5:23).

Even though God’s Word clearly teaches that we are three-part beings, very few [believers of Messiah](#) practice a [functional understanding of spirit, soul, and body](#) in their everyday lives!

Most people actually believe that they’re only made up of [body and soul](#). They confuse [soul](#) and [spirit](#) as being basically the same thing. Therefore, on a day-to-day level, they only acknowledge a physical part and an emotional, mental, inner part (commonly called “personality”).

Even Strong’s concordance fails to distinguish all three! The Greek word for “spirit” is “pneuma” and is defined as being “the immortal soul.”

The word translated “soul” is psyche, the psychic nature which includes the mind and the intellect, the astral and causal bodies. The word translated “spirit” is pneuma, which is the pure consciousness, the spirit itself. So we can see that they are quite different.

God’s Word has revealed a very distinct difference between spirit and soul. The spirit is innermost part of the soul, which is the dwelling place of God, not simply the “immortal soul.”

Our body is obvious. It’s the physical part of us that can be seen in a mirror. If we were talking to ourselves face to face, we’d be seeing our body.

### **BODY**

BODY is the flesh who works for the glory of God. For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead. (James 2:26) Then the LORD God took some soil from the ground and formed a man out of it; he breathed life-giving breath into his nostrils and the man began to live. (Genesis 2: 7) You were made from soil, and you will become soil again. (Genesis 3:19) BODY requires food to grow and not die. Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. (Mathew 10:28)

However, we’d be speaking to the soul, which is the set of [Mind, Will and Emotion](#). [The soul](#) is what most people call our “personality”.



## SOUL

The SOUL is part of us that covers our will, affections and thoughts (i.e. that connects with our fellow human beings). The SOUL, the real I is what will experience the pearly gates or eternity in Hell (Mathew 25:46). SOUL determines where we will spend our eternity. The SOUL is what makes us different from everyone else. It gives us our identity. It is our will, emotion and intellect. It is the gate way into the SPIRIT. That is why whatever is fed into SOUL affects the SPIRIT. The word of God is the only good source of food for the SOUL, it nourishes the SOUL (1 Peter 2:2). But Jesus answered, “The scripture says, ‘Man cannot live on bread alone, but needs every word that God speaks.’” (Mathew 4: 4; Luke 4:4)

The “spirit” is the innermost part of the soul and is defined as subset of the Mind, Will and Emotion. The spirit is that part of the soul which has the functionality of [conscience, fellowship and intuition](#).

## SPIRIT

The SPIRIT is the part that connects to God and covers matters like faith, trust, worship & so on.... (i.e. inner most part of our being). The SPIRIT is there to guide the SOUL (Romans 8:14), while BODY is like a cover. SPIRIT is from God (Genesis 2:7). That is what keeps us alive. Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it. (Ecclesiastes 12:7) It is the God in us which if fed on the word of God grows to the level of feeling the presence of the Holy Spirit of God in us. Without being born again we are spiritually dead. There is no God in us automatically unless we are born again we cannot be saved.

We can feel both our body and the soul. If I put my hand on your shoulder, you’d know that I touched you. However, I can also touch you whether I’m physically near or not. By speaking to the soul, I can make you glad, sad, or mad. Through my words, I could even “hurt” you without physically touching your body.

It’s easy to know how we feel in our body and in soul because we’re constantly in touch with them! By taking a mental inventory, our body can instantly tell us how it feels. We know if our adrenaline’s pumping or if we’re tired, if we’re healthy or fighting a cold, if our head aches, or if the shower’s just right. In fact, we don’t even really have to think about it because our body constantly feeds us such information.

We can also check the soul and know right away how we’re doing. It’s easy to tell if we’re happy or hurt, mentally worn out or sharp and ready to go, or just plain angry. We’d even be aware of fear or depression if it came because We’re always in touch with the soul.

However, the spirit cannot be accessed in any natural way. [Yeshua](#) declared, “That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the [Spirit is spirit](#)” (John 3:6). He meant that there’s no direct connection between the two. They are interrelated, as we’ll later see, but spirit is spirit and flesh is flesh. We simply cannot contact the spirit through the emotions or our physical body.

Herein lies one of the great problems in the life of believers in [Messiah](#)! If we don’t understand that spiritual reality can’t be felt, then we’ll be confused when God’s Word declares that we have the same power that raised [Yeshua](#) from the dead (Ephesians 1:18-20).

If we think truth can be discerned through our natural senses, then we’ll be baffled when the Bible says that we’re a brand new creature who can do the same miraculous works that Yeshua did (2 Corinthians 5:17; John 14:12). Without understanding spirit, soul, and body, we’ll search our body and soul in bewilderment wondering, Where is it? I don’t really have that kind of power in me.

[The Bible](#) is so hard to understand! If we can’t see, taste, hear, smell, or touch what the Word reveals about us, we’ll immediately be thrown into conflict. This apparent disparity between our experience and God’s Word will cause us to throw up our hands in frustration and conclude, “It must not be true!”

Unlocking the Spirit Realm, understanding [spirit, soul, and body](#) unlocks the spirit realm so we can experience who we are and what we have in [Messiah](#)! Since the spirit realm can’t be naturally seen or felt, the only way to accurately perceive spiritual truth is through the Bible. Simply take God’s Word and believe it! [Yeshua](#) said, “It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life” (John 6:63). God’s Word reveals spiritual reality.

If we want to know what the spirit is like, we must find out from the Word. We can’t just go by emotion or some other type of perception. God’s Word is spirit and life! When we look into the Bible, we behold ourselves in the spirit.

“For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed” (James 1:23-25). God’s Word is a spiritual mirror!

## 2.2 A Perfect Reflection

When we look at our face in a mirror, we aren’t really seeing ourselves. Rather, we’re viewing a reflection. In fact, our eyes have never looked directly into our own face. Think about it—we’ve always seen a reflection! Even though it’s only a representation, we’ve learned to trust it. If we want to know if our hair is combed or if our makeup is on, we don’t just go by how we feel. Since those things can’t be felt, we must look in a mirror and then trust what we see.

It’s the same with the [born-again spirit](#)! God’s Word perfectly reflects who we are in the spirit. It’s the only way we can know. We can’t just assume, “If I had God’s power inside of me, I’d be aware of it” because that which is Spirit is spirit and that which is flesh is flesh! It would be like trying

to feel if our makeup was on or our hair was combed. Those things just can't be felt! We must look in God's mirror and trust the spiritual reality we see!

## 2.3 Are you Confused?

Every born-again believer has undergone a complete inner transformation. "Therefore if any man be in [Messiah](#), he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by [Yeshua the Messiah](#)" (2 Corinthians. 5:17-18).

Notice how it doesn't say that "all things are becoming new" or "have the potential of being new." This verse declares "old things have passed (past tense) away," "all things have become (present tense—reality right now) new," and "all things are of God."

If we don't understand [spirit, soul, and body](#), we're instantly set up for confusion, frustration, and ultimately unbelief when we see a verse like this. After reading about a total change and all things being of God, we look at our body and immediately start wondering because it hasn't passed away or become brand new. If we were overweight before receiving the Lord, that didn't change the moment we got saved!

A time will come when we'll receive a glorified body, but that hasn't happened yet. "For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality" (1 Corinthians 15:53). Although Messiah's atonement provided for us physically, our body has not yet been saved. It's been purchased, but not yet redeemed.

## 2.4 Release What You've Already Got!

[The spirit](#) totally changed at salvation! Upon making [Yeshua the Messiah](#) our Lord, the spirit underwent an instant and complete transformation. Typically, our body and soul are both impacted by what happened, but it's neither total nor complete.

If we don't understand that the change took place in the spirits and has to work its way out into the souls and bodies are usually quite disappointed. "I thought I'd become a brandnew person. [Yeshua](#) was going to change everything!" Then unbelief takes hold. "But things didn't change, and I'm still the same!" Some of us may seriously doubt whether or not we were saved. Those of us do maintain our salvation often lose faith that we'll ever really experience and enjoy it here in this life.

But the truth is—the spirit has totally changed! we aren't in the process of trying to get anything from God. Everything we'll ever need in the [life of believers of Yeshua](#) is already present in its entirety in the spirit! At this very moment, [born-again spirit](#) is as perfect and complete as it'll ever be throughout all eternity. We won't get a new one when we arrive in heaven, and neither will it need to be matured, completed, or cleaned up from any defilement down here on earth. [The spirit](#) is—right now—as perfect, mature, and complete as [Yeshua](#) Himself!

The pivot point after being [born again](#), the rest of [the life of believers of Yeshua](#) consists simply of renewing and releasing! As we renew our mind and believe God's Word, the soul will agree

with what's already transpired in the spirit. When soul comes into alignment with what it sees in God's spiritual mirror, what's already in the spirit releases into the soul and body.

That's how we experience the benefits of our salvation! If the spirit and soul agree, we experience the life of God. [The born-again spirit](#) is always for God because it's already been completely changed into His likeness and image. When the soul agrees with the spirit, that's two parts of our being against one. Since the majority always rules, the soul and body will experience the life, victory, and power that is in the spirit.

On the other hand, the supernatural flow of life from the spirit to the physical realm stops when the soul agrees with the body (majority rules again) and is dominated by the natural realm. We cut ourselves off from experiencing God's life in us when we align the soul with what we can see, taste, hear, smell, and feel instead of what we perceive in the Word. What's in the spirit must flow through the soul in order to get out to our body and the physical world around it!

## **2.5 The Functions of the Body, the Soul, and the Spirit**

[The body](#) is the "world-consciousness," [the soul](#) is the "self-consciousness," and [the spirit](#) is the "God-consciousness." There are five organs in the body which afford man the five senses. This physical body enables man to communicate with the physical world. This is why it is called the "world-consciousness."

The soul comprises that part in man known as the intellect, which makes man's existence possible. The part of love generates affections toward other human beings or objects. Affections originate from the senses. All these are parts of man himself; they form the personality of man. Hence, they are called the "self-consciousness."

The spirit is the part with which man communicates with God. With this part man worships God, serves Him, and understands his relationship with God. Hence, it is called "God-consciousness." Just as God dwells in the spirit, the self dwells in the soul, and the senses dwell in the body.

[The soul](#) is the meeting point; here the spirit and the body join. Man communicates with God's Spirit and the spiritual realm through the spirit and receives and expresses power and life in the spiritual realm through this spirit. He communicates with the outside world of senses through the body; the world and the body interact with one another. The soul lies in between these two worlds and belongs to these two worlds.

On the one hand, it communicates with the spiritual realm through the spirit, and on the other hand, it communicates with the physical world through the body. The soul has the power of self-determination; it can make decisions concerning the things related to it in the environment and can choose or reject them.

It is impossible for the spirit to control the body directly; it requires a medium. This medium is the soul, which was produced when the spirit touched the body. The soul is in between the spirit and the body; it binds the spirit and the body together as one. [The spirit](#) can rule over the body through the soul and subject it under God's power. The body can also induce the spirit through the soul to love the world.

Among the three elements of man, [the spirit](#) is joined to God and is the highest. [The body](#) is in contact with the material world and is the lowest. In between the two is [the soul](#). It takes as its nature the nature of the other two. As such it becomes the linkage of the other two parts. Through the soul the two parts can fellowship with each other and can work together.

The function of the soul is to maintain the spirit and the body in their proper order so that they will not lose their proper relationship with one another. In this way, the body, which is the lowest, will submit to the spirit, and the spirit, which is the highest, will be able to control the body through the soul.

[The soul](#) is indeed the chief element in man. The soul looks to [the spirit](#) for the supply which the latter has received from [the Holy Spirit](#) and communicates to the body what it has received so that the body may partake of the perfection of the Holy Spirit and become a spiritual body.

Man's spirit is the noblest part of man; it dwells in man's innermost part. The body is the lowest and remains outside. The soul dwells between the spirit and the body and is the medium of the two. The body is the outer shell of the soul, while the soul is the outer shell of the spirit. When the spirit tries to control the body, it has to do so with the help of the intermediary soul.

Before man fell, it was the spirit (through the soul) that controlled the whole being. When the spirit wanted to do something, it communicated to the soul, and the soul activated the body to follow the order of the spirit. This is what it means for the soul to be the medium.

The soul is potentially the strongest part because both the spirit and the body are incorporated into it, take it as their personality, and are affected by it. But in the beginning, man had not sinned, and the power of the soul was fully under the control of the spirit. Hence, the power of the soul was the power of the spirit. The spirit could not drive the body by itself; it had to do so through the soul.

We can see this from Luke 1:46-47: "My soul magnifies [present tense] the Lord, and my spirit has exulted [perfect tense] in God my Savior." Here we see the change in tense according to the original language, which indicates that the spirit must first exult before the soul can magnify the Lord. The spirit first communicates the exultation to the soul, then the soul expresses this exultation through the organs of the body.

The soul is the seat of personality; man's will, intellect, and emotion all lie in the soul. The spirit is the part with which man communicates with the spiritual realm. The body is the part with which man communicates with the physical realm. The soul is in the middle of these two parts. It exercises its judgment to determine if the spiritual realm is to rule or if the physical realm is to rule.

Sometimes the soul rules through its intellect and senses; when that happens, the psychological world rules. Unless the soul yields its rule to the spirit, the spirit cannot rule. Hence, the soul has to authorize the spirit to rule before the latter can rule over the soul and the whole body. The reason for this is that the soul is the origin of man's personality.

The soul is the master of a person because man's will is part of the soul. When the spirit controls the whole being, it is because the soul has yielded itself and has taken a lower position. If the soul rebels, the spirit will not have the power to control it. This is the meaning of "free will" in man.

Man has the absolute right to make his own decisions. He is not a machine which turns according to God's will. He has his own faculty of deliberation. He can choose to obey God's will, and he can choose to oppose God's will and to follow the devil's will.

According to God's arrangement, the spirit should be the highest part and should control the whole being. Yet the main part of man's personality, the will, is of the soul. Man's will (soul) has the power to choose to let the spirit rule, to let the body rule, or to let the self rule. Because the soul is so powerful, the Bible calls it "a living soul."

Most people don't recognize the fact that their spirits are the core of their beings. They function primarily out of their soulish realm, believing what they think and feel is reality. They may perceive their souls to be the core of who they are, but God's Word says differently. Your spirit is the real you! "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also" (James 2:26).

After God formed Adam, He breathed into him the breath of life (Genesis 2:7). This Hebrew word "breath" is also rendered "spirit" in other places (e.g., Job 26:4 and Proverbs 20:27). Adam's body and soul (physical, mental, and emotional parts) had no life in them until "spirit" was imparted. The spirit is our life-giving part! Since the life comes from the spirit, it's the innermost circle of the three. Notice also how our spirit is completely surrounded by the soul. It has no direct access to your physical body.

In the spirit, we've got the same power that raised Yeshua the Messiah from the dead (Ephesians 1:18-20). However, it's possible to have this power and never manifest it. If the soul, like a valve, stays closed to this truth, we won't experience it.

Without opening the valve by renewing our mind to God's Word, the eternal reality in the spirit won't be able to impact the temporal "reality" of our physical realm.

All that resurrection life and power just stays locked up inside until we look into the spiritual mirror long enough to see the real we and release it! We could actually die with all of the power that raised Yeshua from the dead sitting untapped within us. It would be like dying of thirst while leaning against a well full of life-giving water!

If we're dominated by what we feel, the soul is agreeing with the natural realm. "I feel sick and my body hurts. The doctor said I'm dying. Here's my medical record to prove it!" Even though we have the resurrection life of God in the spirit, the soul can keep it shut off so that not one drop of life-giving power ever touches our physical body.

We can experience depression, anger, and bitterness all the while possessing God's love, joy, and peace in the spirit (Galatians 5:22).

Since this applies to every area of our life, can we see how pivotal our soul is? Our body doesn't really control anything. It just goes with the flow of what it sees, tastes, hears, smells, and feels



unless otherwise influenced by the soul. It's amoral—neither good nor bad. Left to itself, our body just reacts to and goes along with what's happening in the physical realm. [When the soul agrees with the spirit, the life of God](#) in us will manifest itself in our physical body. We'll [experience healing, deliverance, anointing, victory, power, joy, prosperity— on and on it goes!](#)

# CHAPTER 3: THE HOLY SPIRIT



The biblical canon is the primary source for any knowledge of the God of heaven. Within its pages God reveals Himself with [a triune identity](#). His divine nature cannot be fully understood without [God the Holy Spirit](#), along with [Yeshua](#) and [the Father](#). When the Bible is studied attentively and listened to carefully this becomes apparent.

God's personal plurality revealed in Scripture, presents one of the three persons within the divine Godhead as [the Holy Spirit](#). When God manifested Himself in flesh, Yeshua, came to earth people could walk with Him, hear His voice, touch Him, and see His footprints when He walked along the shore of the Sea of Galilee.

However, the Holy Spirit doesn't leave footprints. Because He has never been manifested in flesh as Yeshua was, the Spirit is more inscrutable, making misunderstandings possible when trying to understand Him. For example, even after His baptism (only he was baptized in the name of the Lord Yeshua, the Holy Spirit was yet to fall), Simon had to be sharply rebuked by Peter for his wrong thinking about the Holy Spirit (Acts 8).

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

### **3.1 The Nature of the Holy Spirit**

Yet, there is much that can be known about [the Holy Spirit](#) in the canon. It is critical knowledge because it affects our understanding of God along with any study of inspiration, revelation, sanctification, and even the church—for the Holy Spirit is clearly involved with all of these.

Paul also counsels to “test the spirits” for not every spiritual power is guaranteed to be the Holy Spirit. That there are false spirits implies, however, there must be a true one. [Believers of Messiah](#) must not let the “depersonalized, nonregenerative pneumatology” of liberal theology throttle their thinking.

[Yeshua](#) compares the Holy Spirit to the wind: “The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes” (John 3:8). Wind cannot be captured or restrained.

Though elusive and invisible it is nonetheless real. Trees swaying, flags fluttering, and dangerous storms make it manifest. So, with the Holy Spirit. He is intangible and invisible but more real and powerful than the most ferocious wind. Dorothy Sayers suggests:

why books about the Holy Ghost are apt to be curiously difficult and unsatisfactory—we cannot really look at the movement of the Spirit, just because It is the Power by which we do the looking.

[The Holy Spirit](#) is referred to in the Bible as “He,” an evidence of His personal nature. Pronouns such as I, you, he, and she are used when speaking about persons. Such pronouns are also ascribed to the Holy Spirit. For example, Yeshua speaks of the Spirit this way: When He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever

He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. . . when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me (John 16:13, emphasis added).

[Yeshua's earthly mission](#) is also described as Spirit-initiated and Spirit oriented. The Holy Spirit was the agent of Yeshua's birth for Yeshua was "conceived. . . of the Holy Spirit"; the manifestation of the Son involves the Spirit (Matthew 1:20; Luke 1:35). Later, Yeshua's public ministry is inaugurated by the Holy Spirit at His baptism (Matthew 3:16). Afterwards He was driven into the desert by the same Spirit (Mark 1:12). Following that, Yeshua returns to Galilee in the power of the Spirit (Luke 4:14).

The Holy Spirit, through whom He was conceived, baptized and anointed is the divine agent in exorcisms (Matthew 12:18, 24-32; Mark 3:22-30). It is by the "eternal Spirit" that Yeshua gave Himself as a sacrifice for sin (Hebrews 9:14), and by the same Spirit that He rose from His grave (Romans 8:11).

Later Peter instructs Cornelius that God "anointed Yeshua of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power" (Acts 10:38). Because the Holy Spirit was so intimately associated with the entire earthly life of Messiah, He obviously is the one who can correctly interpret and inspire the record of it in Scripture (2 Timothy 3:16).

Yeshua never abandoned His human nature and remains truly God and truly human. He is presently absent from the earth, yet He is with us according to His promise (Matthew 28:20). Followers of Yeshua live by faith in His words through the vicarious work of the Spirit, who mediates the presence of both Father and Son (Ephesians 1:13-14).

Yeshua calls the Holy Spirit "another Paraclete," who will continue His ministry (John 14:16). This second Paraclete gave intelligible directives to the fledgling New Testament Church just as Yeshua had done. Yeshua portrays the Spirit as a person like He is. John underscores this point by using the personal pronoun *ekeinos* ("he") to render Yeshua's references to the Spirit—whereas Greek grammar normally would use the neuter *ekeino* ("it") to agree with the neuter noun *pneuma* ("Spirit," the Greek equivalent of *ruach*).

This personal pronoun, used in [the great Trinitarian](#) address given by Yeshua (John 14-16), and is all the more striking because in 14:17, where the Spirit is first introduced, John uses the grammatically appropriate neuter pronouns (*ho* and *auto*). The subsequent shift to the masculine pronoun conveys John's theology— which the Holy Spirit inspired! The Spirit affirms His personhood with personal pronouns.

In addition to personal pronouns being ascribed to the Holy Spirit, the Spirit also speaks and gives instructions. Only a person can act with intentionality. Intentions are limited to personal beings. Abstract forces never "intend" to do anything. Biblical writers present the Holy Spirit with other characteristics of a personal nature, giving Him intelligence and knowledge. For example, "He will teach you" (John 14:26). Hebrews 3:7 presents the Holy Spirit saying what is written in Psalm 95:7-11; and again in Hebrews 10:16-17 quoting Jeremiah (32:33-34).

In Hebrews 9:8, the Holy Spirit explains a function of the heavenly sanctuary, implying His knowledge of it. The Holy Spirit is also the Author of Scripture: “prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit” (2 Peter 1:21). He engaged human writers to record the revelation of God in human language. The Holy Spirit then subsequently speaks and interprets these inspired words to each generation of believers as the canon’s paramount interpreter.

[An intimate relationship between the Holy Spirit and Yeshua](#) is portrayed in the New Testament. The Holy Spirit is referred to as “the Spirit of Messiah” (Romans 8:9; 1 Peter 1:11), “the Spirit of Yeshua” (Acts 16:7), “the Spirit of Yeshua the Messiah” (Philippians 1:19), and “the Spirit of his Son” (Galatians 4:6)—and is a source of divine power.

### **3.2 Human Nature – Spirit – The Holy Spirit**

Bible has more than 1500 instructions (commandments or laws). The Old Testament has a total of 613 instructions, whereas the New Testament has more than 1000 instructions. One day a teacher of the Law came to Yeshua with a question: “[Which commandment is the most important of all?](#)” Yeshua replied, “The most important one is this, ‘Listen, Israel! The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second most important commandment is this: ‘Love your neighbour as you love yourself.’ There is no other commandment more important than these two.” (Mark 12: 28-31; Matthew 22: 34-39) The whole Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets depend on these two commandments. (Matthew 22: 40).

However, Yeshua also said that “Do not think that I have come to do away with the Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets. I have not come to do away with them, but to make their teachings come true. Remember that as long as heaven and earth last, not the least point nor the smallest detail of the Law will be done away with—not until the end of all things. So then, whoever disobeys even the least important of the commandments and teaches others to do the same, will be least in the [Kingdom of heaven](#). On the other hand, whoever obeys the Law and teaches others to do the same, will be great in the Kingdom of heaven. I tell you, then, that, you will be able to enter the Kingdom of heaven only if you are more faithful than the teachers of the Law and the Pharisees in doing what God requires.” (Matthew 5: 17-20; Acts 24:14).

We need to understand that when or at what stage these laws are not applicable. If the Spirit leads us, then we are not subject to the Law. Spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, and self-control. There is no law against such things as these. (Galatians 5: 17, 22-23).

### **3.3 Human Nature**

Our human nature wants is opposed to what the Spirit wants. What human nature does is quite plain. It shows itself in immoral, filthy, and indecent actions; in worship of idols and witchcraft. People become enemies and they fight; they become jealous, angry, and ambitious. They separate into parties and groups; they are envious, get drunk, have orgies, and do other things like these. Those who do these things will not possess [the Kingdom of God](#). (Galatians 5: 17, 19-21)

Food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food, but God will do away with both of them. Yet the body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body. (1 Corinthians 6:13) All of us often make mistakes. But if a person never makes a mistake in what he says, he is perfect and is also able to control his whole being. (James 3: 2, 8)

We will reap exactly what we plant. If we plant in the field of our natural desires, from it we will gather the harvest of death; So let us not become tired of doing good; for if we do not give up, the time will come when we will reap the harvest. So then, as often as we have the chance, we should do good to everyone, and especially to those who belong to our family in [the faith](#). (Galatians 6: 8-10)

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your [spirit and soul and body](#) be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our [Lord Yeshua the Messiah](#). (1 Thessalonians 5:23) I warn you now as I have before: those who do these things (i.e. the work of the flesh such as adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, etc.) will not possess [the Kingdom of God](#). (Galatians 5: 21)

### 3.4 Spirit

Do not get drunk with wine, which will only ruin you; instead, be filled with the Spirit. Speak to one another with the words of psalms, hymns, and sacred songs; sing hymns and psalms to the Lord with praise in your hearts. In the name of our [Lord Yeshua the Messiah](#), always give thanks for everything to God the Father. (Ephesians 5: 18-21)

What the Spirit wants is opposed to what our human nature wants. If the Spirit leads us, then we are not subject to the Law. Spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, and self-control. There is no law against such things as these. (Galatians 5: 17, 22-23)

For the Spirit that God has given us does not make us slaves and cause us to be afraid; instead, the Spirit makes us God's children, and by the Spirit's power we cry out to God, "Father! my Father!" God's Spirit joins himself to our spirits to declare that we are God's children. Since we are his children, we will possess the blessings he keeps for his people, and we will also possess with Messiah what God has kept for him; for if we share Messiah's suffering, we will also share his glory. (Romans 8: 15-17) And those who belong to [Yeshua the Messiah](#) have put to death their human nature with all its passions and desires. The Spirit has given us life; he must also control our lives. Galatians 5: 24-25)

We will reap exactly what we plant. If we plant in the field of the Spirit, from the Spirit we will gather the harvest of eternal life. So let us not become tired of doing good; for if we do not give up, the time will come when we will reap the harvest. So then, as often as we have the chance, we should do good to everyone, and especially to those who belong to our family in the faith. (Galatians 6: 8-10)



Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify us entirely; and may our [spirit and soul and body](#) be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our [Lord Yeshua the Messiah](#). (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

Let us not use harmful words, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed, so that what we say will do good to those who hear us. No more shouting or insults, no more hateful feelings of any sort. Instead, let us be kind and tender-hearted to one another, and forgive one another, as God has forgiven us through Messiah. (Ephesians 4: 29-32)

So then, we do not speak in words taught by human wisdom, but in words taught by the Spirit, as we explain spiritual truths to those who have the Spirit.

### 3.5 The Holy Spirit

But I am telling you the truth: it is better for you that I go away, because if I do not go, the Helper will not come to you. But if I do go away, then I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove to the people of the world that they are wrong about sin and about what is right and about God's judgment. When, however, the Spirit comes, who reveals the truth about God, he will lead you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own authority, but He will speak of what He hears and will tell you of things to come. He will give me glory, because He will take what I say and tell it to you. (John 14:16-17; 16:7-8; 13-14)

But it was to us that God made known His secret by means of His Spirit. The Spirit searches everything, even the hidden depths of God's purposes. It is only our own spirit within us that knows all about us; in the same way, only God's Spirit knows all about God. We have not received this world's spirit; instead, we have received the Spirit sent by God, so that we may know all that God has given us. (1 Corinthians 2: 10-12)

### 3.6 Gifts of the Holy Spirit

[The Gift of the Holy Spirit](#) in Acts 2:38 is the miraculous endowment of supernatural power in nine different categories listed in 1 Corinthians 12: ***Knowledge, Wisdom, Faith, Prophecy, Miracles, Healing, Distinguishing of Spirits, Tongues, and Interpretation of Tongues***. These nine gifts have existed in both the Old and New Testament.

All the patriarchs including Adam, Noah, Abraham, Jacob directly communicated with God and functioned as prophets. Joseph saw and interpreted dreams, Moses performed miracles, David had the gift of prophecy, Solomon had the gift of wisdom, Bezalel had two gifts: knowledge and wisdom. Elijah and Elisha each had two gifts: The gifts of miracles and healings. Balaam's donkey spoke miraculously in the supernatural gift of tongues! Elisha may have had the gift of interpretation of tongues by interpreting the Aramaic language ambush plans spoken by the king of Damascus in his bedroom for the Hebrew speaking king of Israel (2 Kings 6:12). The same gifts we find in the New Testament, we see in the Old Testament.

Joel 2:28 was written in 588 BC, one year before Solomon's temple was destroyed by the Babylonians and burned by the Edomites. It was a primary messianic prophecy of when the "common folk" would be supernaturally endowed by the Holy Spirit.

What was unique about the New Testament era in contrast to the Old Testament, was not WHAT supernatural powers were given but WHO the supernatural powers were given to. The first recorded miracle performed by a man was Moses when his staff turned into a snake (Exodus 4:1). Subsequent “spirit filled” men who had the miraculous indwelling of [the Holy Spirit](#) tended to leaders who performed specialized jobs like Bezalel (Exodus 31:2-3), judges, kings or prophets.

Starting at Pentecost AD 33, a completely new and unique group of God’s people would be given supernatural power: “Young, old, male and female slaves”. In this new way, “the Spirit was not yet given” (John 7:39), even though the 70 disciples had been empowered for a time when they preached the gospel 2x2 (Luke 10:17-20).

Yeshua promised that after He ascended and was glorified (John 7:39) that Father will send in Yeshua’s name the supernatural Holy Spirit, which Yeshua called the “Comforter/Helper/Advocate” (John 14,15,16).

Acts 2:33 confirms God sent the Comforter when the Apostles were [baptized in the Holy Spirit](#) on the day of Pentecost as evidenced in the miraculous speaking of tongues. Peter connects the miracle of tongues with Joel’s prophecy (Acts 2:17) for his audience, then surprised them by saying that the miraculous gift of the Holy Spirit you see in us, is also for you too (Acts 2:38)!

To suggest that Peter’s listeners would have understood the promise that they would received the “[Gift of the Holy Spirit](#)” as anything other than miraculous is absurd. They directly connected the Gift of the Holy Spirit with the miracles they witnessed in the Apostles that day.

Every Bible character in Old and New Testament who possessed supernatural power had been “baptized in the Holy Spirit”, had the “indwelling of the Holy Spirit” and were recipients of the “promise of the comforter” made by God.

When we realize that full water immersion (baptism) was widely practiced every Sabbath before entering synagogues as early as 280 BC, it becomes natural for Yeshua to employ baptism as a new metaphor for the same supernatural endowment which is seen in Moses, Samuel, Daniel, David and Elijah. An old power was given a new name, or in this case, a new metaphor!

To limit the miraculous “Comforter” to the apostles becomes impossible when every detail is seen fulfilled in non-apostles. To neuter the miraculous out of the Comforter promise and morph it into some non-miraculous indwelling is an egregious contradiction of the context.

What we see in John 14,15,16 is the miraculous, what we do not see is the non-miraculous personal indwelling. The fact that Yeshua says that the Holy Spirit “will be in you [miraculously]” (John 14:17) merely echoes numerous Old Testament examples of the supernatural indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

The Apostles, Philip and his four daughters, Cornelius and the tongue speakers in Corinth all had:

- The personal miraculous indwelling of the Holy Spirit
- The baptism of the Holy Spirit miraculously (Acts 1:5; 11:15-16)
- The comforter/Helper miraculously

- The Gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38; 10:44-45) which simply cannot be anything BUT miraculous.

Each and every believer has been given by the indwelling of the Spirit of God, gifts of the Spirit (Acts 2:38). In Acts chapter 8; Romans 12:6-8; Ephesians 4:11; Peter 4:11 and in 1 Corinthians chapters 12-14 we see external gifts of the Holy Spirit, which comes from God (James 1:17).

Isaiah 11:2-3 speaks of seven different spirits or gifts: “And the Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—*the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord*. He will delight in obeying the Lord. He will not judge by appearance nor make a decision based on hearsay (called discernment).”

These are important gifts that Paul talks further about them in the New Testament in 1 Corinthians chapter twelve. There are nine gifts of the Spirit mentioned by Paul in 1 Corinthians chapter twelve: But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. *For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues*: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. (1 Corinthians 12: 7-11)

According to Scripture, [the Gifts of the Spirit](#) are to continue to work through the Followers of Messiah until His return, which are given to them freely.

### 3.6.1 The Gift of Wisdom

A supernatural revelation, or insight into the divine will and purpose, often given by the Spirit to solve perplexing problems and situations. The first gift Paul mentions is the gift of wisdom (1 Corinthians 12:8). It is listed first perhaps because it is foundational to the church and this is a gift that the believer can earnestly desire (1 Corinthians 12: 31).

Wisdom is clearly taught in the Word of God and “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding” (Psalm 111:10). This is the precious gift that Solomon asked for and received from God to be able to rightly rule God’s nation (1 Kings 3:12). With this wisdom, Solomon could understand what do in difficult decisions.

Wisdom is also associated with fearing the Lord. Fear is simply standing in awe of God in reverence and respect. It entails loving His Word and being obedient to what it says. There is no wisdom in disobedience.

There are three types of wisdom: The Wisdom of God (1 Corinthians 2:6-7); The Wisdom of the World (1 Corinthians 2:6); and The Wisdom of Man (Ecclesiastes 1:16-18). The gift of the word of wisdom is the application of knowledge that God gives us. This type of wisdom is a gift which cannot be gained through study or experience and should by no means try to replace them. The gift of the word of wisdom is seeing life from God’s perspective. As believers exercise this gift, we begin to develop a fear of the Lord. This is the “beginning of wisdom” according to Proverbs 1:7.

The gift of the word of wisdom is also the revealing of prophetic future; it is speaking hidden truths of what is not known. It is a supernatural perspective to ascertain the divine means for accomplishing God's will in a given situation, and is a divinely given power to appropriate spiritual intuition in problem solving.

Furthermore, this gift involves having a sense of divine direction, being led by the Holy Spirit to act appropriately in a given set of circumstances, and rightly applying knowledge. The gift of wisdom is the wisdom of God. It is the supernatural importation of facts; it is not natural. We can't earn it. It is received from God through prayer (Ephesians 1:17). The gift of the word of wisdom works interactively with the other two revelation gifts: knowledge and discernment.

### **3.6.2 The Gift of Knowledge**

The Word of Knowledge is a supernatural revelation of Divine knowledge or insight in the Divine mind, will or plan, to know things that could not be known of oneself. The next gift of the Spirit is that of knowledge (1 Corinthians 12: 8). Some people have such a gift of remembering scriptures. They have knowledge of God and His ways. They seem to be able to quickly distinguish which is biblical and which is not.

Some translations say it is the "Word" of knowledge while others say that it is the "utterance" of knowledge. The Word is most certainly the Word of God. The "utterance" of knowledge could indicate that those with the gift of knowledge know when to speak particular words, when not to, and what words to speak with. Both words seem to fulfil what true knowledge is. These with this gift make excellent priests, teachers, deacons, elders, or pastors.

A word of knowledge is a definite conviction, impression, or knowing that comes to us in a similitude (a mental picture), a dream, through a vision, or by a Scripture that is quickened to us. It is supernatural insight or understanding of circumstances, situations, problems, or a body of facts by revelation; that is, without assistance by any human resource but solely by divine aid.

Furthermore, the gift of the word of knowledge is the transcendental revelation of the divine will and plan of God. It involves moral wisdom for right living and relationships, requires objective understanding concerning divine things in human duties, and refers to knowledge of God or of the things that belong to God, as related in the Gospel. The gifts of the word of wisdom and the word of knowledge function together; knowledge is raw material and wisdom builds on it.

### **3.6.3 The Discerning of Spirits**

The gift of "distinguishing between spirits" is having the gift of discernment. It is able to discern scriptures and their application to believers in the church. It is also being able to tell whether someone is earnest and sincere, or they appear to have an agenda.

Peter displayed this in Acts chapter five when Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property and kept back part of the money and brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet but lied saying they had given it all to the church (Acts 5:1-10). Those with this gift of discernment or "distinguishing between spirits" may be able to know whether the church should or should not do particular things.

This is a supernatural revelation or insight into the realm of spirits to detect them and their plans and to read the minds of men. The first thing to notice about this gift is that the “s” in the word “**spirits**” is with a small “s.” This means that it is not referring to the Holy Spirit. The only other spirits that are out there that this gift is referring to are the following three kinds of spirits: **Demonic spirits**, **God’s angels**, and **Human spirits**.

Discerning of spirits is the supernatural ability given by the Holy Spirit to perceive the source of a spiritual manifestation and determine whether it is of God (Acts 10:30-35), of the devil (Acts 16:16-18), of man (Acts 8:18-23), or of the world. It is not mind reading, psychic phenomena, or the ability to criticize and find fault.

Discerning of spirits must be done by the power of the Holy Spirit; He bears witness with our spirit when something is or is not of God. The gift of discerning of spirits is the supernatural power to detect the realm of the spirits and their activities. It implies the power of spiritual insight – the supernatural revelation of plans and purposes of the enemy and his forces.

It is a gift which protects and guards the believers’ life. How to Test a Spirit? We can discern or test whether or not a spirit is of God by the following three ways: (i) Observing what a person does. In Matthew 7:15-20, Yeshua explains that false prophets are known by their fruit – by their conduct and actions; (ii) Observing whether or not a person exalts Yeshua the Messiah as the Son of God and as Lord and Saviour (1 Corinthians 12:3); and (iii) By listening to what a person says (1 John 4:1-3). Does their confession line up with the truth of God’s Word?

### **3.6.4 The Gift of Faith**

The next gift of the Spirit Paul mentions is the gift of faith (1 Corinthians 12:9). Those with this gift are truly amazing in how they see things. They tend to exude confidence in all situations. The gift of faith is the supernatural ability to believe God without doubt, combat unbelief, and visualize what God wants to accomplish. It is not only an inner conviction impelled by an urgent and higher calling, but also a supernatural ability to meet adverse circumstances with trust in God’s words and messages.

[The Bible](#) speaks of several different types of [faith](#) which increase from faith to faith (Romans 1:17): Saving faith – faith which gets you into Heaven (Ephesians 2:8-9); Fruit of faith – faith which gets Heaven into you (Galatians 5:22-23); Gift of faith – stems from saving faith and the fruit of faith; It is the ability to believe for the miraculous (2 Thessalonians 1:3).

This gift not only operates in healings and in miracles, but in the realm of the impossible as well. Saving faith produces the active faith of the fruit of the Spirit which, in turn, produces the gift of faith. When the gift of faith is empowered, the results are miraculous!

### **3.6.5 The Gift of Healing**

The healing of all manner of sickness by supernatural power, without human aid or medicine. The gift of healings refers to supernatural healing without human aid; it is a special gift to pray for specific diseases. Healing can come through the touch of faith (James 5:14-15); by speaking the word of faith (Luke 7:1-10); or by the presence of God being manifested (Mark 6:56; Acts 19:11-12).

The Bible speaks of “gifts” of healing because there are three types of healings: physical (diabetes, blindness, cancer, deafness, etc.), emotional (jealousy, worry, discouragement, and other destructive attitudes), and spiritual (bitterness, greed, and guilt, etc.).

The gift of healing may be in relations to the power of prayer, and we know that the effectual prayer of a righteous man or woman can accomplish miracles (James 5:16). In any event, we must attribute any healing that is done is “...by that one Spirit” and not by humans (1 Corinthians 12:9).

Although there are three main types of healings, there is much diversity with the gift of healings. While one person might have the gift of healing to rid a person of cancer or perform a creative miracle, another person might have a diversity of the same gift to correct lower back problems or remove a root of bitterness).

According to Mark 16:17-20, the gifts of healing belong to all believers. You can know whether or not you have the gift of healing by the following: (i) By the inner witness of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:16); (ii) When you have a special ability to believe for physical healing for someone (Romans 12:3-8); and (iii) When you have an overwhelming feeling of compassion which moves you to action (Matthew 20:34).

### **3.6.6 The Gift of Miracles**

A miracle is the performance of something which is against the laws of nature; it is a supernatural power to intervene and counteract earthly and evil forces. The word ‘miracles’ comes from the Greek word *dunamis* which means “power and might that multiplies itself.” The gift of miracles operates closely with the power gifts of faith and healings to bring authority over Satan, sickness, sin, and the binding forces of this age.

Miracles can also be defined as supernatural intercessions of God. God exhorts us with energy to do something that is not natural or normal to us. Just as the ministry gift of miracles is the expression of prayer, so is the function of the Holy Spirit to direct our prayers (Romans 8:26).

However, the greatest miracle (and often least talked about) is the miracle of salvation. Sure, it doesn’t appear as spectacular as parting a sea or even raising a person from the dead, but then again, we as human beings are truly impressed by the manifestations of outward signs and wonders.

God, on the other hand, isn’t so concerned about outward appearances and flamboyant showmanship but rather a person’s heart condition. It is God’s desire that believers utilize these spiritual gifts to combat unbelief and bring non-believers to repentance in order that spiritually dead people can be transformed into new creatures in [Yeshua the Messiah](#).

After you become a new creature in [Messiah](#), a miraculous transformation begins to occur in you every day to confirm you to [Messiah’s image](#) (Ephesians 1:17-20) and to strengthen your inner man (Colossians 1:10-11). The power of God was miraculously manifested in the lives of believers in the New Testament church (Acts 4:33; Mark 16:20), and God wants His power not only working in you, but also through you (Acts 1:8).



Yeshua said, “[Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God](#)” (Matthew 22:29). The Apostle Paul warned Timothy about those who have a form of godliness, but deny the power thereof, and he told him not to associate with such people (2 Timothy 3:5).

If you want the gift of miracles to operate in you, make sure that the Word of God is in you and that you are being influenced by the right people. Miracles are the product of the spoken Word of God, because the Word of God and God are one (Psalm 33:6).

The greatest miracles that occur today are, for the most part, the miracle of human conversion. We see this as the greatest miracle of all since only the Spirit of God can illuminate the Word of God and reveal to us [Who Yeshua the Messiah is](#) (John 6:44, Mathew 16:17).

### **3.6.7 The Gift of Prophecy**

Prophecy is the supernatural utterance in the native tongue. It is a miracle of divine utterance, not conceived by human thought or reasoning. It includes speaking unto men to edification, exhortation, and comfort. The gift of prophecy edifies, exhorts, and comforts (1 Corinthians 14:3); helps us build up or strengthen; and should lead us to the Word of God. It is the ministry of the Holy Spirit to convict of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment to come (John 16:8-11).

Prophecy is divinely inspired and anointed utterance; a supernatural proclamation in a known language. It is the manifestation of the Spirit of God – not of intellect (1 Corinthians 12:7), and it may be possessed and operated by all who have the infilling of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 14:31)

Intellect, Faith, and Will are operative in this gift, but its exercise is not intellectually based. It is calling forth words from the Spirit of God. The gift of prophecy operates when there is high worship (1 Samuel 10:5-6), when other prophets are present (1 Samuel 10:9-10), and when hands are laid on you by ministers (Acts 19:1-6).

1 Corinthians 14:4: **“But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.”**

1 Thessalonians 5:19-21: **“Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies. Test all things; hold fast what is good.”**

When Paul says in the above two verses to **“desire earnestly to prophesy”** and to **“desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy,”** you know that this is something that the Lord would really like to do more of with His children.

### **3.6.8 The Gift of Diverse Tongues**

The Bible tells us that we will be speaking out **“mysteries,”** and only God the Father and the Holy Spirit will be knowing exactly what the prayer will be about on any given occasion when you are actually doing it.

Supernatural utterance through the power of the Holy Spirit in a person that manifests as spiritual language. The Holy Spirit energizes the tongue to edify believers through language and music.

The gift of diverse tongues is the most misunderstood and dynamic gift. It has two dimensions. First, it is our prayer language as mentioned in Ephesians 6:17-18 as one of the armors of God that we may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, and in the evil days. It says, this the “sword of the Spirit”, which is the word of the God, and praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit. It can also surface through intercession, conference, or through the individual.

The second dimension is about communicating with our other fellow flesh living on this world. To understand this aspect, all we need to do is to go back to Acts 2 and read verse 4, “They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other languages”.

The literal translation in Greek is “glossa” and means tongues. This same word “glossa” (language) is used again in Acts 2:11. This means it is a known language not some unknown tongue. Then it says (in Acts 2:5-11) that there were unbelievers present at Pentecost and were hearing God’s message in their own “dialektos” dialects or language: “Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues” (dialektos or dialects)! So there were unbelievers present at Pentecost hearing God’s message in their own languages and their own local dialects.

Supernatural utterance in languages not known to the speaker; these languages may be existent in the world, revived from some past culture, or “unknown” in the sense that they are a means of communication inspired by the Holy Spirit (Isaiah 28:11; Mark 16:17; Acts 2:4, 10:44-48, 19:1-7; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 13:1-3, 14:2, 4-22, 26-32).

The spiritual gift involving ability to speak in foreign language(s) not previously studied or to respond to experience of the Holy Spirit by uttering sounds which those without the gift of interpretation could not understand.

At Pentecost the church received the gift to communicate the gospel in foreign languages (Acts 2). God gave His Spirit to all His people to empower them to witness and prophesy. In Corinth some members of the church uttered sounds the rest of the congregation did not understand (1 Corinthians 12-14). This led to controversy and division.

Paul tried to unite the church, assuring the church that there are different gifts but only one Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:4-11). There are three types of tongues mentioned in the Bible:

- An unknown tongue unto God (1 Corinthians 14:2). This type of tongue edifies you (1 Corinthians 14:4; Jude 20), assists you in prayer (Romans 8:26-27), stirs up the prophetic ministry (1 Corinthians 14:5), refreshes your soul (Isaiah 28:11-12), gives victory over the devil (Ephesians 6:18), and helps you worship in the Spirit (1 Corinthians 14:14-15; Hebrews 2:12). When you sing in the Spirit, God joins in with you and confuses and defeats the enemy (Isaiah 30:29-31); it breaks the yoke of bondage (Acts 16:25); it brings you into the presence of God (Psalm 22:3); and it aids you in intercession (Romans 8:26);

- A known tongue that is a sign to unbelievers. (1 Corinthians 14:2; Acts 2:6);
- A tongue that is understood through interpretation and edifies the church (1 Corinthians 14:15).

Please note that the gift of tongues (as well as your prayer language) is a product of both God and man. Every believer has a part to play in speaking in tongues for the Spirit gives us utterance, and we do the talking.

### **3.6.9 The Interpretation of Tongues**

The supernatural ability to interpret in the native tongue what is uttered in other languages not known by the one who interprets by the Spirit. Interpretation of tongues is a supernatural verbalization and subsequent interpretation to reveal the meaning of a diverse tongue.

This gift operates out of the mind of the Spirit rather than out of the mind of man. It is important to note that “interpretation” of tongues is not the same thing as “translation” of tongues, for the interpreter never understands the tongue he or she is interpreting. For example, the message in tongues may be long and the interpretation short because the interpretation only gives the meaning. On the other hand, one may speak a short time in tongues and then given a lengthy interpretation. Yet still, at other times, the interpretation is almost word for word.

The Word of God says that if we pray in tongues, we should pray that we will also interpret – not only for the benefit of others – but for our own benefits as well. If someone speaks in tongues, we can ask God to move through us to give the interpretation so others will understand, but we can also do this in our private prayers for our own personal benefits. We can pray, “Father, help me understand what I’ve just said to you in the Spirit,” and the Lord will give us the interpretation.

The gift of interpretation of tongues is the second of three inspirational or vocal gifts of the Holy Spirit. When combined with the inspirational gift of diverse tongues, the miraculous and supernatural phenomenon known as prophecy results.

1 Corinthians 14: 27-28: “If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret. But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God.”

1 Corinthians 14:13-14: “Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret. For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.”

Prophet Zachariah says, the angel told me to give Zerubbabel this message from the Lord: “You will succeed, not by military might or by your own strength, but by my spirit. (Zachariah 4: 6) The Holy Spirit and we have agreed not to put any other burden on you besides these necessary rules. (Acts 15: 28)

And do not make God’s Holy Spirit sad; for the Spirit is God’s mark of ownership on you, a guarantee that the Day will come when God will set you free. Get rid of all bitterness, passion, and anger. For this reason, I tell you: people can be forgiven any sin and any evil thing they say; but whoever says evil things against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. Anyone who says something against the Son of Man can be forgiven; but whoever says something against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven—now or ever. (Mathew 12: 31-32) Whoever does not have the Spirit cannot

receive the gifts that come from God's Spirit. Such a person really does not understand them, and they seem to be nonsense, because their value can be judged only on a spiritual basis. (1 Corinthians 2: 13-14)

### 3.7 Fruit of The Holy Spirit

[The Fruit of the Spirit](#) is actually a term that the apostle Paul uses to sum up nine visible attributes of a true believer's life. They are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22).

Note too that these are not individual 'fruits' that we pick and choose but one ninefold fruit that is 'a physical manifestation of a believer's transformed life'. It is Messiah living in us and transforming us. We can display this fruit only when we have Messiah living in us. To have Messiah living in us, we need to have a close relationship with Him. This is possible only if we spend time with Him through prayer, reading His word and reflecting on it.

If the gifts of [the Holy Spirit](#) are like virtues, the fruits of the Holy Spirit are the actions that those virtues produce. Prompted by the Holy Spirit, through the gifts of the Holy Spirit we bear fruit in the form of moral action. Matthew 7:16-20 helps us to understand the Fruit of the Holy Spirit, which are the observable behaviours of people who have allowed the grace of the Holy Spirit to be effective in them. It spells, "[Ye shall know them by their fruits](#). Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." Therefore, the fruits of the Holy Spirit are works that we can perform only with the aid of the Holy Spirit. The presence of these fruits is an indication that the Holy Spirit dwells in believer of [the Yeshua the Messiah](#).

[Believers in Yeshua the Messiah](#) are given the Holy Spirit to lead them and empower them. In Acts 2:8, Yeshua said, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Ephesians 1:13-14 explains that the Holy Spirit is a deposit given to believers in Messiah that guarantees their relationship with Messiah.

Therefore, we receive the Holy Spirit the moment we believe in [Yeshua the Messiah](#). When we receive the Holy Spirit into our lives, we have a new awareness of Messiah, and can begin entering a relationship with Him. The primary purpose of the Holy Spirit coming into our life is change. The Holy Spirit's role is to mould us into the image of Messiah so that we may live in His likeness. In Galatians 5:22-23 we learn about the fruit of the Holy Spirit, which is love, joy, peace, patience (longsuffering), kindness (gentleness), goodness, faithfulness, humbleness (meekness) and self-control (temperance). The fruit of the Holy Spirit is the result of the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives. The Bible also says, "against such things, there is no law." (Galatians 5:23). However, these

fruits are contrasted with the works of the flesh which are immediately precede them in verse 24 (Galatians 5:24).

In Galatians 5, Paul wants to make sure that people know how to spot the evidence of the Holy Spirit in their lives. The result of the Holy Spirit in their lives will be good things like love, joy, kindness, and self-control. He also wants to make sure that believers know that evil actions like sexual immorality, impurity, and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies are not the work of the Holy Spirit. The fruits of the Spirit are evidence of the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers.

The Greek word is singular, showing that “fruit” is a unified whole, not independent characteristics. As we grow, all the characteristics of Messiah will be manifested in our lives. Yet, like physical fruit needs time to grow, the fruit of the Spirit will not ripen in our lives overnight. Like a successful gardener must battle against weeds to enjoy the sweet fruit they desire, we must constantly work to rid our lives of the “weeds” of our old sin natures that want to choke out the work of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives us the power we need to reject those old sinful desires. We can say “no” to sin and accept the “way out” God faithfully provides (1 Corinthians 10:13) by following the Holy Spirit’s leading.

As we give the Spirit more control of our lives, He begins to do in and through us what only He can do – to shape us and grow us to look like Yeshua (2 Corinthians 3:17-18). Since God’s goal for all His children is for us to be like Yeshua (Romans 8:29), the Holy Spirit constantly works to rid our lives of the “acts of the sinful nature” (Galatians 5:19) and display His fruit instead. Therefore, the presence of the “fruit of the Spirit” is evidence that our character is becoming more like Messiah’s. The nine attributes of a person or community living in accord with the Holy Spirit are:

### **3.7.1 Love**

In Galatians 5:22-23, love is translated from the Greek word ἀγάπη, (agape). Greek has multiple words for love including eros, which is sexual love and philos, which is brotherly love. Agape’ is perfect love that only God can give. “In respect of agapao as used of God, it expresses the deep and constant ‘love’ and interest of a perfect Being towards entirely unworthy objects, producing and fostering a reverential ‘love’ in them towards the Giver, and a practical ‘love’ towards those who are partakers of the same, and a desire to help others to seek the Giver,” according to Vine’s Expository Dictionary. Love for God and others is the result of receiving God’s perfect agape’ love.

“And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him” (1 John 4:16). Through Yeshua the Messiah, our greatest goal is to do all things in love. “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails” (1 Corinthians 13:4-8). Charity is the love of God and of neighbour, without any thought of receiving something in return. It is not a “warm and fuzzy” feeling,

however; charity is expressed in concrete action toward God and our fellow man. “And above all things have fervent love for one another, for ‘love will cover a multitude of sins’” (1 Peter 4:8).

True, biblical love is a choice, not a feeling. It deliberately expresses itself in loving ways and always seeks the welfare of others. Biblical love is dependent on the giver’s character, not emotion. For instance, a mature believer demonstrating love will not exercise his or her freedom if that action might harm another believer in some way.

Rather than risking the possibility of causing the immature believer to question and stumble, the mature believer will not exercise his freedom out of love for his brother (Romans 14:1-15). Love chooses to set aside one’s own preferences, desires, and sometimes even needs to put the other person first (Philippians 2:1-3). Yeshua encouraged his followers: “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.” (John 15:9-11).

### **3.7.2 Joy**

Joy isn’t emotional, in the sense that we commonly think of joy; rather, it is the state of being undisturbed by the negative things in life. Sometimes we believers tend to downplay the meaning of joy. But, the Greek word translated as “joy” in Galatians 5 means “gladness and delight” – basically the same thing the world means when it talks about joy. It is a feeling of gladness based on our circumstances. Sadly, the world’s joy cannot last because it is based on fleeting, physical circumstances. But the joy of the Lord is established in our spiritual, eternal circumstances. It is rooted in God and comes from Him. Since it comes from God, it is more serene and stable than worldly happiness, which is merely emotional and lasts only for a time.

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice” (Philippians 4:4)! “Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Yeshua the Messiah” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). “The joy of the Lord is your strength” (Nehemiah 8:10). “Let us fix our eyes on Yeshua, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God” (Hebrews 12:2). Paul encourages us to: ***“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance”*** (James 1:1-2).

“Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Romans 15:13). As we cling tight to Yeshua, abiding daily in our saving relationship with Him, we will experience the fullness of joy He promised (John 15:4-11).

### **3.7.3 Peace**

The Biblical concept of peace, εἰρήνη (eirene) in Greek, the Greek equivalent for the Hebrew word shalom, which expresses the idea of wholeness, completeness, or tranquility in the soul that is



unaffected by the outward circumstances or pressures. The word *eirene* is inclusive of life without conflict, as well as wholeness and harmony with God and others. A life of peace is safe and secure both physically and mentally.

*“You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You”* (Isaiah 26:3). Yeshua is described as the Prince of Peace, who brings peace to the hearts of those who desire it. He says in John 14:27: “Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid”. In Matthew 5:9 he says, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.” “Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Yeshua the Messiah” (Romans 5:1). “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Romans 15:13).

Peace is a tranquillity in our soul that comes from relying on God. Rather than getting caught up in anxiety for the future, believers, through the prompting of the Holy Spirit, trusts God to provide for them. *“The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.”* (Romans 8:6)

Peace is a result of allowing the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts and minds. When we have peace, we are free from fear and worry about finances, our safety, our salvation, and our eternal life. The fruit of the Holy Spirit is seen in the peace that comes even when our circumstances are far from tranquil. Jesus encouraged his followers in John 16:33, *“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”*

The world doesn’t offer much peace. Just look around. The world cannot give it because the world doesn’t know the One who is peace. But for those who have the Spirit of peace within us, the peace of Messiah is possible, no matter our circumstances (John 14:27). We can reject the chaos of the world and embrace God’s peace.

The book of Philippians tells us how (Philippians 4:4-9). First, choose to rejoice in God and who He is. Second, bring all your worries, fears, and concerns to God in prayer. Third, fill your mind with God’s truth. And fourth, choose to think about the things of God. “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Yeshua the Messiah” (Philippians 4:6-7). “Let the peace of Messiah rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful” (Colossians 3:15).

### **3.7.4 Patience (Longsuffering)**

Exodus 34:6 describes the Lord as “slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity.” Moreover, Psalm 37:7 spells that “Rest in the LORD and wait patiently for Him; do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who carries out wicked schemes”. Forbearance μακροθυμία (*makrothumia*) is not a word that most of us commonly use.

The Greek word in Galatians 5:22-23 is often translated using other words such as patience, endurance, constancy, steadfastness, perseverance, longsuffering, and slowness in avenging wrongs. The Holy Spirit empowers believers to withstand challenging situations with perseverance and endurance. The Greek root of this word relates to two words that mean long and passion. Through the Holy Spirit we are able to wait longer before indulging our passions- we become “long-tempered” rather than “short-tempered.” Paul used this word when he was describing Yeshua’s patience (μακροθυμία) with him.

***“But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Messiah Yeshua might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life.” (1 Timothy 1:16)***

Like Paul, we have all benefited from Messiah’s immense patience with us. The evidence of the Holy Spirit in our life is also seen in our ability to persevere, be patience, steadfast and long-tempered. Ephesians 4:1-2 encourages us to ***“be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.”*** We are ***“strengthened with all power according to His glorious might so that we may have great endurance and patience...”*** (Colossians 1:11).

We don’t see much patience in the world today, not even in the church. Maybe part of the reason is our fast-paced, want-it-now culture. But believers have everything we need to be patient because we have the Holy Spirit living in us longing to display His character to those around us. Patient people put up with circumstances and other people, even when severely tried. Patient people display endurance, longsuffering, and perseverance. The New Testament also specifically connects patience with sharing the Gospel. God is patient as He waits for the lost to come to Him (2 Peter 3:9) and He calls His people to be patient as we extend the offer of salvation in Messiah to others (2 Timothy 4:20).

Patience is the ability to bear the imperfections of other people, through a knowledge of our own imperfections and our need for God’s mercy and forgiveness. Longanimity is patience under provocation. While patience is properly directed at other’s faults, to be long-suffering is to endure quietly the attacks of others. “The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9). “Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Yeshua” (Revelation 14:12).

### **3.7.5 Kindness (Gentleness)**

“Those who are kind benefit themselves, but the cruel bring ruin on themselves” (Proverbs 11:17). Kindness χρηστότης (chréstotés) conveys the meaning of moral goodness, integrity, usefulness, and benignity. In the King James Version this word is translated “gentleness,” which links it to the meaning of a gentleman or a gentlewoman, someone who behaved properly, with moral integrity

and kindness. Romans 2:4 reminds us that it is God's kindness that leads us to repentance not judgement.

The Holy Spirit enables us to have moral integrity with kindness and not get trapped in self-righteousness judgement. Kindness is acting for the good of people regardless of what they do, properly, "useable, i.e. well-fit for use (for what is really needed); kindness that is also serviceable". Kindness is doing something and not expecting anything in return. Kindness is respect and helping others without waiting for someone to help one back. It implies kindness no matter what. We should live "in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left".

The characteristics of "kindness" and "goodness" are closely related. Together they present the picture of one who not only possesses moral goodness and integrity, but also generously expresses it in the way they act toward others. This "goodness in action" reflects God's kindness and goodness toward us. God demonstrated His kindness and goodness to us in our salvation (Titus 3:4) and will continue to "show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us" for all eternity (Ephesians 2:7)! We should live ***"in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left"*** (2 Corinthians 6:6-7). "Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:32).

Kindness is the willingness to give to others above and beyond what we own them. To be mild in behaviour is to be forgiving rather than angry, gracious rather than vengeful. The gentle person is meek; like Messiah Himself, Who said that "I am gentle and humble of heart" (Matthew 11:29) he does not insist on having his own way but yields to others for the sake of the Kingdom of God.

### **3.7.6 Goodness**

"Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to Your lovingkindness remember me, for Your goodness' sake, O LORD" (Psalm 25:7). Popular English Bibles translate the single Greek word *chrestotes* into two English words: kindness and goodness. Goodness *ἀγαθωσύνη* (*agathosune*) means uprightness of heart and life, goodness, and kindness. Goodness is seen in our actions. This word relates to not only being good, but also doing good things. The Contemporary English Version of 2 Thessalonians 1:11 highlights this meaning, "We pray for God's power to help you do all the good things you hope to do and your faith makes you want to do." Through the Holy Spirit's work in believers' lives, they are upright in heart, and they do good things. "Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever" (Psalm 23:6). Goodness is the avoidance of evil and the embrace of what's right, even at the expense of one's earthly fame and fortune.

"Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of His goodness, and the work of faith with power" (2 Thessalonians 1:11). "For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth" (Ephesians 5:9).

“Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behaviour his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom” (James 3:13).

### 3.7.7 Faithfulness

“Most men will proclaim each his own goodness, but who can find a faithful man” (Proverbs 20:6)? “A faithful man will abound with blessings, but he who makes haste to be rich will not go unpunished” (Proverbs 28:20). Faithfulness πίστις (pistis) is evidence of the Holy Spirit’s work in our lives. Faithfulness is a character trait that combines dependability and trust based on our confidence in God and His eternal faithfulness. “O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name; for in perfect faithfulness you have done marvelous things; things planned long ago” (Isaiah 25:1).

In the New Testament, faith is the belief in God and the conviction that Yeshua is the Messiah through whom we obtain eternal salvation. *“With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith.”* (2 Thessalonians 1:11) *“I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Messiah may dwell in your hearts through faith”* (Ephesians 3:16-17). Faith, as a fruit of the Holy Spirit, means living our life in accordance with God’s will at all times. “For we walk by faith, not by sight” (2 Corinthians 5:7).

To be “faithful” is to be reliable or trustworthy. For the believer, this is faithfulness specifically to the Savior who redeemed us. Believer faithfulness therefore, is continued and consistent submission and obedience to the same Spirit who provides the ability for us to be faithful. This attitude is in direct contrast to our previous “faithfulness” to our own sinful desires and ways. The word also describes someone willing to suffer persecution and even death for Messiah’s sake. “Therefore, among God’s churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring.” (2 Thessalonians 1:4)

### 3.7.8 Gentleness [Humbleness (Meekness)]

“A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger” (Proverbs 15:1). Gentleness πραΰτης (prautes) was translated “meekness” in the King James Version, means “a divinely-balanced virtue that can only operate through faith”. Closely linked to humility, gentleness is grace of the soul. It is not weakness, but instead it is strength under control. For instance, in Paul’s second letter to Timothy, he wrote that the “Lord’s servant” will “correct his opponents with gentleness” (2 Timothy 2:25). And in Paul’s letter to the church in Galatia, he wrote that those who have been caught in sin should be restored in a “spirit of gentleness” (Galatians 6:1). Gentleness, being the opposite of self-assertiveness and self-interest, is also a key ingredient in unity and peace within the body of Messiah (Ephesians 4:2).

“Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted.” (Galatians 6:1). “Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.” (Ephesians 4:2). Yeshua describe himself as gentle in Matthew 11:29 “Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle

and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.” “Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near” (Philippians 4:5). “...to be peaceable, gentle, showing every consideration for all men” (Titus 3:2).

### 3.7.9 Self-Control (Temperance)

“Like a city that is broken into and without walls is a man who has no control over his spirit” (Proverbs 25:28). “He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit, than he who captures a city” (Proverbs 16:32). Self-control ἐγκράτεια (egkrateia) is ability to control one’s body and its sensual appetites and desires – physically and mentally – through the power of the Holy Spirit. Self-control relates to both chastity and sobriety, and particularly moderation in eating and drinking. Self-control is the opposite of the works of the flesh that indulge sensual desires.

As Galatians 5:16 says ***“So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.”*** The last characteristic in Paul’s description of the fruit of the Spirit points us back to his list of the ***“works of the flesh”*** in Galatians 5:19-21. Those of us with the indwelling Holy Spirit has the strength to control our sinful desires, to say “no” to our flesh. Self-control gives us the power to say “yes” to the Spirit and foster a beautiful, bountiful harvest of spiritual fruit!

Continence is self-control or temperance. It does not mean denying oneself what one needs or even necessarily what one wants (so long as what one wants is something good); rather, it is the exercise of moderation in all things. “The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer” (1 Peter 4:7). “But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your [faith](#) virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love” (2 Peter 1:5-7).

## CHAPTER 4: THE LAST MAN AND HIS CLOSEST COMPANION





## 4.1 Introduction

God created MAN, in the form of male and female. 1 Corinthians 15 reveals that Adam is the FIRST MAN and Messiah is the LAST MAN. Eve was another form of Adam. Eve was not made of dust, but everything of Eve was out of Adam; Adam was the material of which Eve was made. Likewise, Messiah is the material for the CHURCH. God used Messiah to make the CHURCH. The CHURCH is another form of Messiah.

In fact, the life of Yeshua can be divided by three great developments in relationship with the Holy Spirit. First, Yeshua is conceived by the Spirit in Mary's womb (Matthew 1:18, 20; Luke 1:35). This was the transition of the manifestation into flesh: The Son of God becoming the Son of Man. He was a real man as He had a human mother and went through the ceremony of purification, as the Law of Moses commanded (Luke 2:22-24) and the child grew and became strong (Luke 1:80; Luke 2:40). Then, He is anointed by the Spirit at the Jordan River (Luke 3:21-22; John 1:32-33). Yeshua had been alive for about 30 years; the Kingdom of God was still something future for John the Baptist.

In the Old Testament, God had promised David that his son would be king of Israel, and that his son's kingdom would be an everlasting one. Now, Yeshua, the Son of David (Matthew 1:1; 21:9), is anointed as King of Israel in fulfilment of this Davidic promise. So, in one sense when the King was anointed it marked the coming of the Kingdom. (Probably this anointing was also for the offices of prophet and priest – see Hebrew 5:5-6; it is very interesting that Yeshua did not function in any of these three roles until after His baptism by John) He was the One promised of old who would receive the Holy Spirit in a peculiar way.

Centuries of human history had proven that man on his own strength could not be what he needed to be. But now a Man was sent who was not going to live by human power but by the power of God's Spirit. And in this way He would succeed where all the others had failed.

Finally, He receives the Spirit at His exaltation in order to pour out the Spirit upon His church. All through the ministry of John the Baptist and Yeshua Himself, there was an expectation that at some point in the future Yeshua would give the Holy Spirit to His followers. Each gospel includes verses like Luke 3:16 where John the Baptist says, *“As for me, I baptize you with water; but One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the thong of His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”*

And Yeshua continued this theme that John began. Just ten days before Pentecost He said to His disciples, *“John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”* (Acts 1:5; Acts 11:16) Well, on the day of Pentecost what had been long anticipated finally happened. The disciples were baptized with the Holy Spirit. Speaking of Yeshua, Peter declared to the gathering crowd at the pouring out of the Spirit at Pentecost, *“having been exalted to the right hand of God and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.”* (Acts 2:33)

## 4.2 Prophecies in the Old Testament

In [the Old Testament prophecy of the coming Messiah](#), we read in Isaiah 11:2-3, “And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. And shall make Him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and He shall not judge after the sight of His eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of His ears.”

Psalms 45:2 spells, “Thou art fairer than the children of men: grace is poured into thy lips: therefore God hath blessed thee for ever”. Further in Isaiah 42:1 we read, “*Behold My servant, whom I uphold; My chosen in whom My soul delighteth; I have put My Spirit upon Him; He shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles, etc.*”

“A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him – the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and power, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.” (Isaiah 11:2) The prophet Isaiah further reveals in 61:1 “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; He hath sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.”

Zechariah 12:10 says, “*And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn*”.

Matthew tells us in Matthew 12:17-18, that the above prophecies were fulfilled in Yeshua of Nazareth.

## 4.3 Conceived by the Holy Spirit

Matthew 1:18, 20 and Luke 1:35 tells us that Yeshua’s life on earth commenced when He was conceived in Mary’s womb by the Holy Spirit. The Scriptures say, “And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee; and the power of the Most High shall overshadow thee: wherefore also that which is to be born shall be called holy, the Son of God.”

The virgin birth was an act of creation as God bypassed one of the key links in the normal physiological chain of birth. No explanation is given – it is a miracle. Yeshua’s ability to be both God and man simultaneously was the work of the Holy Spirit, not possible through the natural laws of procreation. (Hebrews 10:5) Yeshua was filled with the Spirit from that moment on (without limit, cf John 3:34).

As the believers we know that Yeshua the Messiah was begotten of God in His original generation. He is the only begotten Son of God (John 3:16). It was entirely by the Spirit's power working in Mary that the Son of God was formed within her. The regenerated man has a carnal nature received from his earthly father and a new nature imparted by God. Yeshua the Messiah had only the one holy nature, that which in man is called the new nature.

#### **4.4 Identified by Holy Spirit-Filled Prophets**

Prophesied in the Old Testament – Isaiah 11:1-2; 42:1; 61:1. Yeshua often referred the OT to Himself.

Simeon knew from the Spirit that he would see the Messiah – Luke 2:26, 27. Guided to the temple courts, with Prophetess Anna, when Joseph & Mary came to present the baby Yeshua.

John the Baptist was filled with the Holy Spirit from before his birth – Luke 1:15

The Gospels record John's prophecy that the coming One would baptize with the Holy Spirit – Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33 (Matthew and Luke add "and with fire")

#### **4.5 Descended on by the Holy Spirit, Like A Dove**

Another transition occurred when Yeshua was thirty years old. Up until that point Yeshua had done no preaching, he had performed no miracles. Except for the fact that He was morally perfect, he had lived a rather normal life. But now He is ready to transition into His public ministry, and we come to the next great Holy Spirit event in the life of Yeshua. Luke 3:21-22; Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:10 and John 1:32 tell the event: *"Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Yeshua also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened, And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased"*. After this something has changed. From this point on Yeshua is spoken of as being led and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Yeshua's baptism in water was the means by which:

- He identified with mankind
- He modelled obedience to God's order
- God publicly identified Him as His Son;

His ministry as prophet, priest and king was inaugurated (in the Old Testament this anointing was with oil, cf Hebrews 1:9; Acts 10:38).

All four Gospels record the Holy Spirit descending on Him like a dove – Matthew 3:16, 17; Mark 1:10, 11; Luke 3:21, 22; John 1:32-34. Occurred when he prayed after leaving the water. Yeshua's baptism was distinct from the Spirit coming on Him.

(The coming of the dove may have pointed out in a symbolic way that Messiah came to be our sin offering – John 1:36 cf Leviticus 5:7.)

This caused John the Baptist to have confidence that Jesus (his cousin) was indeed the Messiah – John 1:32-34 and publicly recognize and endorse Him.

## **4.6 Led by the Spirit into the Wilderness**

[Yeshua the Messiah was led by the Holy Spirit](#) in His movements here upon earth. After [the baptism](#), the Spirit led Yeshua into the wilderness – Matthew 4:1; Luke 4:1 and Mark 1:12. Mark uses "drove" (lit. cast Him out, drove him out).

He was so full of the Holy Spirit he did not feel hungry till after 40 days – Matthew 4:2. The Holy Spirit filled Yeshua to prepare Him to do all God's work.

Living as a man here upon earth and setting an example for us, each step of His life was under the Holy Spirit's guidance. Yeshua the Messiah met and overcame temptations as other men may meet and overcome them, in the power of the Holy Spirit. He was tempted and suffered through temptation (Hebrew 3:18), He was tempted in all points like as we are (Hebrew 4:15), but never once in any way did He yield to temptation. He was tempted entirely apart from sin (Hebrew 4:15), but He won His victories in a way that is open for all of us to win victory, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Being full of the Holy Spirit does not prevent temptations. But the strongest temptation cannot rob us of God's anointing either. Some people fear the temptations and trials they go through are signs of their being removed from God's will and anointing. This was not true of Yeshua, and it will not be true of us if we "live in the Spirit, and do not gratify the desires of the sinful nature" – Galatians 5:16. The Holy Spirit will be with us in our times of temptation.

[Yeshua defeated the temptations of the Devil](#) (facing temptation was part of His ministry – Hebrews 2:17-18) by using the power of the Holy Spirit, the Word of God and an attitude of obedience - available to us today (1 John 5:4).

## **4.7 Returning in Power**

After this Yeshua returned in the power (δύναμις) of the Spirit to Galilee (Luke 4:14). His life and ministry were characterised by the power of God in action. Yeshua the Messiah was anointed and fitted for service by the Holy Spirit. We read in Acts 10:38, "How God anointed Yeshua of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with Him."

In a similar way Yeshua said of Himself when speaking in the synagogue in Nazareth, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach good tidings unto the poor; He hath sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord" (Luke 4:18 - 19). Further in Luke 10:21 we read, In that hour Yeshua 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. All these passages contain the one lesson, that it was by the especial anointing with the Holy Spirit that Yeshua the Messiah was qualified for the service to which God had called Him.

Yeshua's repeatedly affirmed His works (healing, delivering, binding/loosing, authority, preaching) were not something He did by himself, but as a man empowered by God, anointed by the Holy Spirit – John 5:19, 30. He is our example.

## **4.8 Anointed by the Spirit for Ministry**

Yeshua's entire work on earth shows a close cooperation with the Holy Spirit, who anointed Him for ministry (Acts 10:38 - χρίω = anoint, consecrate, endue with the Holy Spirit).

First manifest in His teaching – Luke 4:18, 21. Yeshua spoke with authority – Mark 1:22. The Holy Spirit gave life to His words – John 6:63; 7:15, 16. Yeshua was showing that He was influenced and taught by the Holy Spirit in all He said and did. It was the Holy Spirit who gave His words power and life in the hearts of His listeners. He also had supernatural insight into peoples' lives and prior knowledge of the cross, through the Holy Spirit's enabling.

Yeshua's knowledge did not come simply from human learning and understanding (even though he was well versed in the Scriptures) but from the Holy Spirit's revelation. Without revelation we cannot understand the things of God.

The Spirit's role is to glorify and confirm Messiah to His people. We see that clearly in the words Yeshua spoke in John 16:12-14 "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. He shall glorify Me; for He shall take of Mine, and shall disclose it to you." (John 15:26 where Yeshua says of the Spirit that "He will bear witness of Me.") In His preaching the presence of the Holy Spirit was witnessed: *The Holy Spirit abode upon Yeshua in all His fullness and the words He spoke in consequence were the very words of God.* We read in John 3: 34, "For He whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for He giveth not the Spirit by measure." Moreover, Isaiah 61:1; Matthew 12:18; Luke 4:14-21; John 3:34; and Acts 1:2 reveal that the preaching of Yeshua the Messiah was empowered by the Holy Spirit.

According to Matthew 12:15-21 the healing ministry of Yeshua was a fulfilment of the prophecy of the Holy Spirit in God's Servant - Isaiah 42:1-4.

Yeshua the Messiah wrought His miracles here on earth in the power of the Holy Spirit. In Matthew 12:28 and Luke 11:20, we read, "*I cast out devils by the power of the Spirit of God.*" Further we read in Acts 10:38 and Luke 5:17 How God anointed Yeshua of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. Matthew 12:15-18 says, But when Yeshua knew it, he

withdrew himself from thence: and great multitudes followed him, and he healed them all; And charged them that they should not make him known: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles.

## **4.9 Motivated by the Holy Spirit**

Yeshua drew His joy from the Holy Spirit, eg when He saw how God worked through the ministry of the 70 He sent out – Luke 10:21. The joy Yeshua had from the Holy Spirit was with Him at all times. But he rejoiced in a special way when He saw how God used ordinary people to do great miracles and how God gave them power over demons.

We, too, can have the joy of the Holy Spirit when we are walking in obedience to the Lord and being used by Him.

## **4.10 Holy Spirit's Power Challenged**

The Pharisees claimed Yeshua cast out demons by the power of Beelzebub (notice that they did not deny these power encounters had taken place). According to Yeshua, this constituted blasphemy against the Holy Spirit, an unpardonable sin. He showed it was unreasonable to believe Satan would cast out Satan. What is described here is a “power encounter” – the Holy Spirit overcoming demonic oppression/possession.

Yeshua made it clear He was casting out demons “by the Spirit of God” – Matthew 12:22-32; Mark 3:22-30; Luke 11:15-20; 12:10. Indicated this manifestation of the Spirit showed the Kingdom of God was in operation among them and for their benefit – Matthew 12:28.

## **4.11 Vindicated by the Holy Spirit**

In 1 Timothy 3:16 we read, “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory”. For Messiah also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit (1 Peter 3:18); And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead (Romans 1:4). It was by the power of the Holy Spirit that Yeshua the Messiah was raised from the dead. Further we read in Roman 8:11, “But if the Spirit of Him that raised up Yeshua from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Messiah from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you.”

## **4.12 Present During the Crucifixion**

The Holy Spirit was with Yeshua as He died on the cross, enabling Him to submit Himself as our ultimate sacrifice. He was also with Him when He presented His blood “without spot to God” – Hebrews 9:14. That sacrifice on our behalf was accepted by God as being sufficient to cover and forgive our sin, once and for all.



### **4.13 The Resurrection of Yeshua**

The Holy Spirit was involved in the resurrection of Yeshua – Romans 1:4; 8:11; 1 Peter 3:18. He makes us alive spiritually (and will resurrect us at the coming of Yeshua).

### **4.14 The Post-Resurrection Ministry of Yeshua**

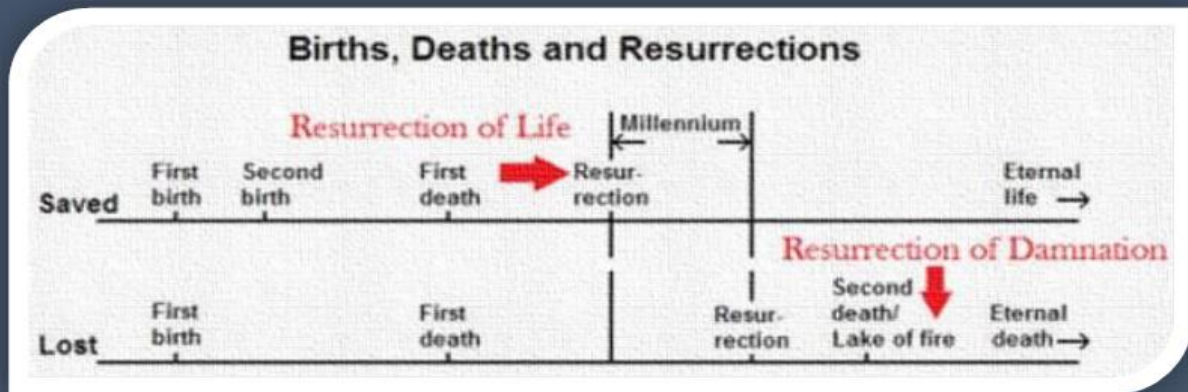
Between His resurrection and ascension Yeshua gave instructions to His Disciples, through the Holy Spirit – Acts 1:2 (consistent with His ministry prior to the crucifixion, eg John 14:10, 14).

In the heavenly realm He fulfilled His promise to send the Holy Spirit upon the waiting disciples – Acts 2:33, as He continues to do today.

### **4.15 Conclusion**

The “Spirit of God” was active throughout [Yeshua’s earthly life](#), as Yeshua needed the guidance and anointing (“Messiah/Christ” = “anointed”), of [the Holy Spirit](#) to carry out the Father’s mission we need the same Holy Spirit to fulfil God’s plan for our lives.

## CHAPTER 5: WHAT IS YOUR DESTINY?



## 5.1 Introduction

**Born again!** – When I was studying the book of Revelation and I came across this saying; “**Born once, die twice – Born twice, die once.**” I thought about it briefly and realized the spiritual truth behind this saying. I want to share this truth with you today.

From the Garden of Eden until now, only two people are recorded to have evaded death: Enoch and Elijah. Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him. (Genesis 5:24) In other words, Enoch walked so closely with God, that when his life was winding up [365 years; Genesis 5:23], the Lord simply took him.

He did not cross the threshold of death. When Elijah had reached the end of his time he and Elisha were walking, and it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. [2 Kings 2:11]

Not even Moses escaped death. David’s tomb remains to this day. Death is an inescapable fact of life. Every airplane that takes flight must eventually touch down again, and every baby that comes into this world must one day leave it.

Just as there are two births, the Bible teaches there are two deaths: one is physical, and the other is spiritual. Jesus warned that we are to fear the second death more than the first one. From the beginning until now, the dead have been buried in the ground, swallowed up by the sea, and burned in funeral pyres.

The exit of the soul from the body marks what we call death. This is really just the first death. There will be a second death for many. Daniel prophesied concerning the dead: and many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. [Daniel 12:2]

When the wicked dead awake to shame and everlasting contempt, they will taste of the second death. First of all, death and hell will be cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death [Revelation 20:14].

Moreover, the second death is mentioned again in Revelation 21:8, which says, Then the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

The second death is an eternal death from which there is no escape.

## 5.2 Born Once and Die Twice

This is the category of persons those who have experienced a physical birth but reject Yeshua offer of pardon for their sins. These individuals will die in their sins and forfeit the opportunity to obtain eternal life: (i) Physical Birth, (ii) Physical Death, and (iii) Eternal Death.

These persons will die while still in possession of their sins and wait in hell for their individual judgment. Because they rejected God's offer to remove their sins, these persons will stand before God at the Great White Throne Judgement that is described in the Book of Revelation, Chapter 21.

All those who die in their sins without the appropriation of Yeshua's death to remove their sins, will be found guilty and die a second time. This "Second Death," can only be experienced by the unsaved who have rejected Jesus' offer to take away their sins.

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in [Yeshua the Messiah](#) our lord. (Romans 6:23). There are several states referred to as "death" in the Bible. There is "physical death". This is the one we usually mean by the term.

The Bible points out that the physical body is dead when the spirit separates from it [James 2:26]. There is also "spiritual death". This is the state that describes sinners who are separated from God by their sins [Ephesians 2:1;12].

It was in this sense that Adam and Eve died in the very day they disobeyed God. They died spiritually, and also became subject to physical death.

Finally, there is the "second death". This is the eternal state of alienation from God described in Revelation 20:11-15; the "lake of fire". There is much we do not know about this last state mentioned, but we do know enough to understand that it would be the worst tragedy to suffer such a plight.

There are many passages which describe the "second death" (Revelation 21:8; 20:10; 14:9-11; Mark 9:42-48; Matthew 25:30,41,46; 22:13).

For those born once, they will die twice. At the end of the one thousand year reign of Yeshua upon the earth, the unsaved who have been waiting in hell for their judgement, will be raised to life and die a second time when they are found guilty of disobeying God's command to repent and turn to Yeshua.

These persons will be cast alive into the Lake of Fire, or Gehenna. [Revelation 20:15] And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. “And I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence the earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them.

And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and the books were opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged, every one of them according to their deeds... and death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire.

This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.” [Revelation 20:11-15]. How do we get written into the book of life? Thankfully the Bible tells us plainly.

We must receive [Yeshua as our Lord and Saviour](#); “Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.” [John 1:12,13] And in this Scripture we see the second birth.

This isn’t as popular as you might think. The world and those of the world hate Yeshua; “He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own receive him not.” [John 1:10,11]

And without this second birth comes the second death for those who don’t receive [Yeshua as Lord](#) and [Messiah](#)!

Some ask, “How could a God of love allow such a thing to happen?” We look at the universe through the eyes of sinful men. We do not perceive sin the way the perfect righteousness of God does. When we say it does not seem fair to condemn sinners to such, we are doing so from tainted perspectives.

If the Lord does a thing, then that thing is just. However, God did love us enough to send a rescuer our way. Yeshua the Messiah died for our sins that we might live. If we turn our backs on Him, then how can we plead “unfair!” when we are condemned in our sins?

## **5.3 Born Twice and Die Once**

There is a curious paradox that is presented in the pages of the Bible that a great majority of people have not understood. Yeshua described a physical birth that every person will experience; and a second spiritual birth that is necessary in order to obtain eternal life.

Yeshua said that because of our sin and sin nature, we are all already under the condemnation of God and dead in our sins. Once we understand who Yeshua is and the reason that He came into the world, we have the opportunity to be born again a second time.

At that moment, our spirit within that was formerly dead, comes alive: (i) Physical Birth, (ii) Spiritual Birth, (iii) Physical Death, and (iv) Eternal Life.

Yeshua told Nicodemus this powerful truth: You must be born again [John 3:7]. According to Yeshua here is why we must be born again: Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except, a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God [John 3:3].

The way to avoid the second death is to be a partaker in the second birth! Yeshua said that there were two necessary parts in being “born again”. He referred to it as “being born of the water and the Spirit”. Unless, we are born again, we cannot see the Kingdom of God.

You will see in the Bible that Yeshua went on to be even more specific about this second birth: Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God [John 3:5]. Not only do we have to be born a second time, but that second birth involves being born of water and of the Spirit.

This second birth or new birth is available to all people. The Lord is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance [2 Peter 3:9]. He does not want anybody to experience the second death.

Later, following His resurrection, He will send out the apostles to “make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of [the Father, Son and Holy Spirit](#).” [Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15,16].

Obedying His commands, the apostles taught the believers on the day of Pentecost to “repent, and be baptized in the name of Yeshua for the forgiveness of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” [Acts 2:37,38].

When the Ethiopian nobleman heard the gospel and then saw some water, he expressed the desire to be baptized in the water, and subsequently was [Acts 8:35-39]. Saul of Tarsus was told, “Arise, and be baptized, washing away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.” (Acts 22:16). This is how “baptism does also now save (us)” [1 Peter 3:20,21].

Yeshua promised to send the Spirit to guide the apostles unto all the truth [John 16:12-14]. When the apostles received and taught that truth, and people obeyed it, they were purified.

As Peter later wrote, “Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls ...for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable, but imperishable, that is, through the living and abiding word of God.” (1 Peter 1:22,23).

Since it was the Spirit who revealed this word of truth, when we obey the word, Yeshua said we are “born of water and the Spirit” [James 1:21, 18; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 5:26].

For those who have been born twice, they can only die once. There is no future judgment for those who have experienced this second birth by accepting Yeshua’s death on the cross for their sins. They will never die again.

If we are not born again, which according to Yeshua means being born of water and of the Spirit, then we are on a path to dying twice. The time is now to repent of our sins and experience the mercy and grace of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah through baptism in his name and the gift of the Holy Ghost. Be born again!

## 5.4 Born Twice and Die Never

For those who have been [born twice and are alive during the rapture event will never die](#). The rapture is something God wants us to know about because He doesn’t want us to face life without hope. In Matthew 24: 40-42 and John 14:2-3, Yeshua, hinted the subject of the rapture of the church.

The word *rapture* means “to catch up or snatch up,” and it’s what the apostle Paul describes in detail in 1 Thessalonians, chapter 4. When the rapture occurs, 1 Thessalonians 4 tells us that Messiah is to bring the souls of those who have died from heaven to earth. He’s going to resurrect their bodies, and their souls will re-enter their bodies permanently in resurrection.

Paul also says, according to the Lord’s instructions to him, that we (that is, believers) who are still alive will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep, but the dead in Messiah will rise first. After that, we who are alive will be “caught up.”

Our earthly bodies will be transformed in to glorified bodies [celestial bodies] that will happen in fraction of a second as mentioned in 1 Corinthians 15:51-52 and will shine very bright in the presence of Yeshua, and so we will be with the Lord forever.

## 5.5 Conclusion

The present day: every person has the opportunity to hear about Yeshua’s death for all sins, accept Him as their Saviour and be saved. If any person dies prior to receiving Yeshua as their Saviour, they will be lost forever. This is the First Death.



Yeshua will return for His church and remove all those who love Him from the earth, taking them back to heaven. Those who have died believing in Yeshua will be raised from the dead at that time and also meet the Lord in the air. This is [the First Resurrection](#) [Rapture Event].

[The Seven Year Tribulation Period](#) begins. God will bring judgment to the world that has rejected Messiah. During this time, a remnant of Israel will receive Yeshua as their true Messiah and also be saved. Yeshua will return to earth with [His redeemed church at the end of the seven year Tribulation](#).

This will begin the one thousand year Kingdom of the Messiah, as promised to David in which Yeshua will rule over the earth. Upon the end of the One-thousand years, the unsaved dead will be resurrected to face the Great White Throne Judgement of God as described in Revelation 20:11.

This is the Second Resurrection. All those who stand before the Great White Throne are found guilty and cast alive into the Lake of Fire. This is the Second Death.

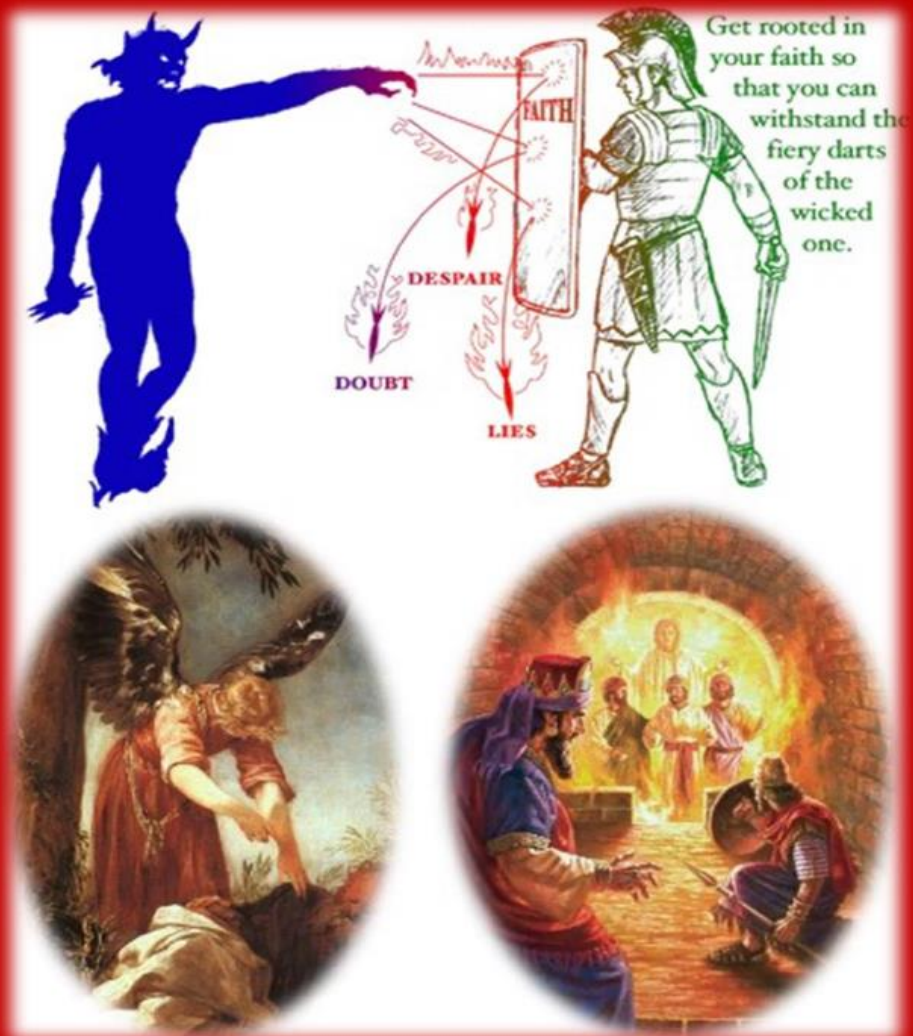
The process of being born again is God regenerating us into new creations! “Regeneration is the work of God through the Holy Spirit within a person who has “saving faith,” in which a new nature is given that makes the person capable of doing the will of God.

Whereas conversion looks at the salvation experience from a human perspective, regeneration describes the same experience from a divine perspective. While the term regeneration occurs in only one verse to describe this experience [Titus 3:5], it is also described as being ‘born again’ [John 3:3,7].”

Being born again, isn’t something we do. It is a spiritual process we experience, and we are never the same. We do make the decision to believe in Yeshua and commit to His Way, the Holy Spirit does the rest with the co-operation of our spirit.

And then we come to know that we are ‘[born again](#)’ because we live in His image and His Holy Spirit tells our spirit that we are His. [Romans 8:15,16]

## CHAPTER 6: THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD



## 6.1 Introduction

Believers are called to put on the full armor of God for spiritual battle and protection comprises the Belt of Truth, the Breastplate of Righteousness, the Gospel of Peace, the Shield of Faith, the Helmet of Salvation, and the Sword of the Spirit (Ephesians 6:10-18).

They can take our stand against the devil's schemes. Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Apostle Paul further says to pray always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watch thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints. Therefore, let us put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, we may be able to stand our ground, and after we have done everything, to stand.

However, before putting on the full armor of God, we need to understand them and their applications in our daily lives. This chapter will cover both the aspects.

## 6.2 Belt of Truth

Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; (Ephesians 6:14) Loin is an uncommon word in modern vernacular. It refers to the lower back but includes the crotch area.

In ancient days, soldiers men would wear long robes that would get in the way of work or fighting, so they would wrap up the long, draping material. This was girding up one's loins. Thus, a soldier is only ready for battle when he is girded with his belt.

A Roman soldier's belt was made of metal and thick heavy leather and was the carrying place for his sword. It also had a protective piece that hung down in the front. His belt held all other pieces of his armor together. To be fitted with his belt, meant he was ready to face action.

The Lord knew our loins needed to be wrapped in truth. Regardless of the culture or time we live in, the Lord has seen all the paths we've taken and how they have hurt and derailed us. He knows we need truth. If we don't begin with truth, we'll never defeat the enemy.

Truth is the belt that holds the believers' armor together as well. Ultimate Truth can be found in God's Word (John 17:17) and in the person of Jesus Christ. (John 14:6) We must know this Truth in order to protect ourselves against our flesh, the world, and the Father of Lies. Truth grounds us and reminds us of our identity in Christ.

We need to pursue the truth on a specific topic but let us not forget to grab hold of the whole of Scripture. Let us not just study the parts that come easy for devotional reading but press into the whole counsel of God's word. We also need to pray God's word.

[The Bible is the guidebook for life.](#) Use the word of Truth as a template to guide our prayers. Each one of us to memorize the truth for quicker access when we need it. We should cover our world with Scripture on post-it notes, screen savers, décor, and anything that will help us to remember God's word in a spiritual battle.

## 6.3 Breastplate of Righteousness

The Roman soldier was always equipped with a breastplate. This piece of armor protected his vital organs in the heat of the battle – when he wasn’t quick enough to take up his shield. The breastplate was for the quick and unexpected advances of the enemy.

Righteousness means being made right. Sometimes Scripture refers to righteousness that Messiah gives us – His righteousness (2 Corinthians 5:21). Sometimes Scripture refers to righteousness that God carries out through us, like “the righteous acts of the saints” (Revelation 19:8).

As believers, we have no righteousness apart from that which has been given us by Christ. Our breastplate is His righteousness. His righteousness will never fail. Though we have no righteousness of our own, we must still, by His power, chose to do right.

Living a right life, rooted in God’s Word is powerful in protecting our heart, killing our flesh, and defeating the enemy. In daily spiritual battle, both varieties of righteousness protect the heart. We need the complete righteousness of Messiah, but also the continuing righteousness that comes as a response to God’s gift.

[The enemy tempts with all kinds of sinful entanglements](#), but righteousness protects our hearts. God’s instructions are often viewed as killjoys or burdens. But obedience to God is a protection for your heart from being wounded by sin.

Therefore, let us identify and work upon righteous activities in our lives that strengthen us. This may be as simple as having an occasional conversation with a homeless person and getting to know them by their name.

Also identify work upon the unrighteous activities in our lives that weaken us. For each of us, this is going to be unique. By intentionally exposing ourselves to immoral behavior, we are allowing Satan to weaken the walls that Messiah had built around us.

## 6.4 Gospel of Peace

Peace is an attribute of the Lord’s very person and character (Galatians 5:22). In Greek, peace means oneness or wholeness. The gospel, which means good news, is the forgiveness of sins and access to and oneness with God through faith in Messiah. This oneness with the Lord produces peace.

Roman soldier’s feet were fitted with sandals called caligae. These sandals were made to help protect soldier’s feet during their long marches into battle. They had extremely thick soles and wrapped perfectly around their ankles in a way that protected against blistering. Caligae also had spikes on the bottom to help them stand firm as they travelled. This helped them have a firm foundation.

The letter of apostle Paul to Ephesians repeatedly reminds us to “stand” and “stand firm.” One of the easiest ways for the enemy to succeed in shaking us loose from standing firm is to tempt us with worry. When we carry anxiousness and worry with us, we are robbed of peace. But the gospel of peace keeps our feet anchored and standing firm.

Believers also have a firm foundation in the Gospel. As believers, we have peace in knowing we are secure in what Yeshua has done for us. Therefore, let us preach the Gospel to ourselves daily. Remind ourselves of the hope we have in [Yeshua the Messiah](#). Because of His sacrifice and our belief in Him, we shall not perish but have eternal life.

Let us not wait until the hardship to remind ourselves of this. Build our foundation on a daily reminder of this hope, and we will be able to get through anything. Let us Share your testimonies with others. The easiest and most effective way to share the Gospel with others is to tell our stories of how Yeshua changed our lives.

Also let us be a living example and surround ourselves with scriptures about the truth of our place with Messiah into our hearts. The way we walk through life will be seen by many. When we carry ourselves with [the Fruit of the Spirit](#), people will stop and notice.

## 6.5 Shield of Faith

The Roman soldier's shield was a complex piece of armor. The shield, also called a scutum, was a soldier's primary defensive weapon. It was made of impenetrable wood, leather, canvas, and metal and could be doused in water to extinguish the fiery arrows of the enemy.

[Faith](#) is the shield of the believer. Trusting in God's power and protection is imperative in remaining steadfast. When the battle rages, we must remember that God works all things for good. 1 Peter 1:5 says, "through faith we are shielded by God's power." He is always true to His promises. A believer's shield of faith needs to be regularly dipped in the water of God's word to be replenished and fully functional – because "faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17).

Therefore, take time to remember the promises of God. When fiery darts try to impact our hearts, extinguish them with reminders of God's goodness over our circumstances. Here are some of His promises. If your faith feels less confident than you wish it did, ask the Lord to increase your faith (Mark 9:24). Find verses that feed our faith and fill our world with them.

Set our faith on God's character, not on a circumstance. Let us band together with other believers in the fight of faith. The best way to band together is through the closeness of a small group. Also recount God's past victories in our lives. Make a list of all the ways God has come through for us in the past. Whenever our faith waivers, recite this list and remember in detail how God made a way.

## 6.6 Helmet of Salvation

The Soldier's head is one of his most vulnerable areas. Without his helmet, one blow to the head would prove fatal. His helmet covered his entire head, facial area, and between the eyes. His armor would prove useless if he wasn't equipped with his helmet.

Salvation comes the moment we place our trust in Yeshua's death and resurrection as the payment for our sin. But salvation is also worked out through a lengthy process of sanctification.

The believer's helmet of salvation is the most crucial piece of armor for the believers. Without the indwelling Holy Spirit that enters a believer at the moment of salvation, all other armor is useless. Salvation empowers believers to fight. It protects us in our weaknesses. Without salvation, there is no victory.

The helmet of salvation rests on the work of Messiah to save us, but also involves us as we journey with the Lord and allow Him to work that salvation into every part of our thoughts, words and actions. The battlefield of our mind is the primary place spiritual battle is fought. The Lord works His freeing truth into our perspectives while the enemy fights for strongholds to bind us (John 10:10).

Therefore, let us stand on the conviction of our salvation. When we know without a doubt that we are going to heaven because of what Messiah did on the cross, not even death can defeat us. We will all face extremely dark times. In these times, our salvation will light the way and carry us home. Let us place and line up our thoughts with the Scriptures. Be intentional about feeding and renewing our mind with spiritual food throughout the day.

## **6.7 Sword of the Spirit**

All other pieces of the soldier's arsenal are defensive weapons, but not his sword. The sword, a gladius, was a deadly weapon. In the hands of a skilled warrior, he could pierce through even the strongest armor. It is the only piece of armor that is both defensive and offensive. When we are tempted, the most effective weapon that God has given to us as believers is the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.

Our sword is the Word of God, both the written and the manifest Word. Every other piece of armor protects us against attacks. With God's Word, we are truly able to fight and defeat all enemies. Messiah used Scripture and modelled this beautifully to defeat Satan when He was tempted in the desert. We must do the same.

Let us arm ourselves. Be intentional about reading scripture. Let us find a time that you can dedicate reading and studying the word of God where we are free of distractions. When attacked, let us fight back with the Word of God. When Satan attacked Messiah in the desert he told him, "No....for it is written..."

Let us use Messiah's example when Satan tries to come after us. When beaten down, let us immerse ourselves in the Bible. Even those with great faith are going to have days when they feel like they are barely hanging on. On these days, ten minutes of time in the Word is just not enough. Let us take a sick day and immerse ourselves in His Word for the entire day. Read, study, pray, and repeat.

## **6.8 Conclusion**

When is the last time that you memorised a Bible verse? I know there are people who are really good memorising Bible verses. I myself am not particularly good in learning a Bible verse by

heart. But it is most helpful to have a Bible verse in times of need, especially, in times of trouble. It is most helpful to have a Bible verse for situations, in which we are trying to come to terms with the world around or within us.

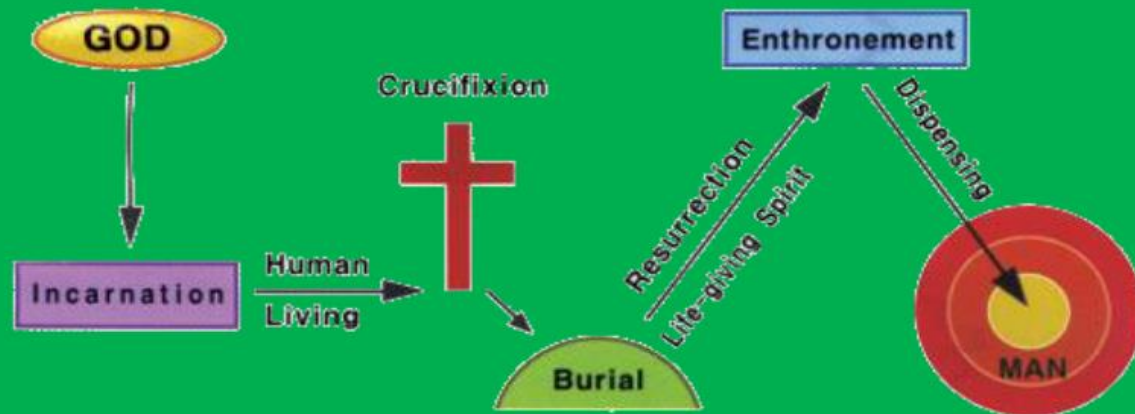
Hebrews 4:12 says “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of [soul](#) and [spirit](#), and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart”. It is most helpful to have a Bible verse for situations, in which we do not find any words on our own.

In Matthew 22:29, Yeshua answered and said unto them, “Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God”; and in Matthew 4:1-11 gave us practical example when he had fasted forty days and forty nights in wilderness and devil tried to tempt him.

In prayer, we show our reliance upon God to act and move. Our entire armor is rooted in His strength. Without His presence, we are powerless in the fight. We must fight on our knees. The One who has won the war is with us in the battle. We will see a victory when we fight in His power.



## CHAPTER 7: CONCLUSION



## 7.1 God's Plan

God desires to express Himself through MAN. For this purpose, He created MAN in His own image. Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." (Genesis 1:26) Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. (Genesis 2:7)

God's purpose was for mankind to live forever on a beautiful paradisaical Earth in perfect body, soul and spirit (1 Thessalonians 5:23), and in this earthen vessel can express God. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground." (Genesis 1:28)

Sure Heaven and angles existed before Earth and man. Heaven was not made for mankind but angelic kind. (Psalms 115:16) So, as originally God's purpose is for mankind to inhabit Earth. [God's desire was always that humanity would fill the earth \(Genesis 1:28-30\) and enjoy the beauty, abundance and fruitfulness of creation.](#)

## 7.2 Sin Entred into Man

Man was not created to be a robot. God designed him to have a free will, giving him the ability to choose Him or not. Before man could receive God as life into his spirit, sin entered into him (Romans 5:12). Sin deadened his spirit (Ephesians 2:1), made him an enemy of God in his mind (Colosians 1:21), and transmuted his body into sinful flesh (Genesis 6:3; Romans 6:12).

Thus, sin damaged all three parts of man, alienating him from God. In this condition, man could not receive God. Man's choice was catastrophic in scope as we inherited all of its consequences. It caused everything that's wrong with the world we live in.

## 7.3 God's Remedy for Sin and Man's Regeneration

Nevertheless, man's fall did not deter God from fulfilling His original plan. God took the initiative and made a way of escape for us through [Yeshua the Messiah](#).. In order to accomplish His plan, God manifested in flesh (became a man) called Yeshua the Messiah (John 1:1,14). Then Messiah died on the cross to redeem man (Ephesians 1:7), thus taking away his sin (John 1:29) and bringing him back to God (Ephesians 2:13). Finally, in resurrection, He became the life-giving Spirit (1 Corinthians 15:45) so that He could dispense His un-searchable rich life into man's spirit (John 20:22; 3:6)

Since Messiah has become the life-giving Spirit, man can now receive God's life into his spirit. [The Bible](#) calls this regeneration (1 Peter 1:3; John 3:3). To receive this life, man needs to repent to God and believe in [the Lord Yeshua the Messiah](#) (Acts 20:21; 16:31).

## **7.4 God's Full Salvation**

After regeneration, a believer needs [to be baptized](#) (Mark 16:16). Then God begins the lifelong process of gradually spreading Himself as life from the believer's spirit into his soul (Ephesians 3:17). This process, called transformation (Romans 12:2), requires human cooperation (Philippians 2:12). The believer cooperates by allowing the Lord to spread into his soul until all his desires, thoughts, and decisions become one with those of Messiah. Finally, at Messiah's return, God will fully saturate the believer's body with His life. This is called glorification (Philippians 3:21). Thus, instead of being empty and damaged in each part, this man is filled and saturated with the life of God.



**Samir Stephan Kujur**

## **ABOUT THE WRITER**

My name is Samir Stephan Kujur, and it's so nice to meet you! In mid 1970s, I was born and brought up in a Christian family. During foundation years of my life (up to 12th standard of my school years), I was in boarding schools and had the opportunity to be part of well architected and disciplined routine life. During these foundation years, moral and spiritual teachings were engrained in my life through regular practice of meditation, attending daily prayers and Holy Mass, etc. In real sense, I was living in His fellowship and enjoying the sweetness of life. However, from early 1990s to mid 2010s, I was drifted away from Him. I left meditation, stopped praying and attending Holy Mass. I felt like I was living in wilderness ... no peace, no success. It was a difficult period and my life literally became hell. I was in trap of devil and was involved in satanic activities. Although I was born and brought up in a Christian family, I never read the complete 66 Books of the Bible (from Genesis Chapter 1 to Revelation Chapter 22) till the age of my late 30s.

After mid 2010s, once again I started meditating but in different format. It was a combination of Raj Yoga, Reiki and Aura Cleansing and reading the Bible. However, this time I was having lots of questions in my mind. Who am I? What is Soul, Spirit, Holy Spirit and their relationship? Who is God? How could there be the Trinity God? What is the relationship between Father, Son and Holy Spirit? and so on ... Also found lots of differences between the words of God in the Bible and Churches' teachings and liturgical practices. I got confused, but never stopped praying and reading the New Testament, Old Testament (different versions- TEV, NIV, KJV, Urantia Book, etc.), Torah and Quran to some extent.

By the Grace of God, I got the answers of my above questions. My life has changed. I am having so many supernatural experiences in my daily life. Here I am sharing some of them as my testimony:

### **[1] The Vision of {The Divine Mercy}**

In between, I got several messages in dreams through departed souls of my loved ones, especially from my grandmother but I didn't believe them because I had no clarity on their messages. Then I prayed, Lord I need a clear message from you. Then on 20th December 2018 around 4:15am to 4:30am, I had the vision (short Dream) of The Divine Mercy. It was just for a fraction of second. I asked him, Whether I should go to Church or not? He replied, You May Go, then left. No fear or excitement, only plain conversation. I got the confirmation from Him. Now I had no choice to ignore anymore.

### **[2] The Vision of {The Throne of the Almighty}**

Although I got the confirmation, but my little human brain was not satisfied, I said to myself, it was just for a fraction of second, I didn't see Him properly and He left. I thought, maybe it was my illusion. Now I had another doubt, Is Jesus God or is just like one of the God's servants? However, I never stopped praying and reading the Bible.

After about 9 and half months of the vision of The Divine Mercy, I had another vision (long Dream). This time it was The Throne of the Almighty. The date of this vision was on 30th September 2019 between 4:15 am and 5:45am and lasted almost 90 min. Initially, appeared like a bright star at distant on white clouds. Then, it started coming closure to me, and I show The Throne of the Almighty. It looked like someone is sitting on the throne, but face was invisible. As it was approaching closer to me, The Throne of the Almighty was magnifying with increased brightness, and at one point of time it approached next to me with magnified multifold and brightness, which was impossible for me to see it from my eye. However, this brightness had no heat or temperature, but had very pleasant or bliss feeling. After this vision, the LORD revealed my future task i.e. His Will to be fulfilled through me on this earth. They are related to spreading the Good News across the globe, one of the similar type of roles of Prophet Elijah, praying for needy souls (especially who are in captivity of evil spirits), revealing the messages of salvation, always remain in his fellowship and try to walk with Him.

This initiative, the writing of book is also one of the actions to fulfil His Will.

### **[3] The Dream of The Rapture Event**

After about 9 months of the vision of The Throne of the Almighty, I had a dream (short Dream). This time it was The Rapture Event. The date of this dream was on 27th June 2020 between 3:30 am and 4:00 am and lasted about 10-15 min. I saw that some human beings went up in the clouds to meet Yeshua. In night, He appeared in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory (the scene was almost same as described in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 by Apostle Paul). Yeshua descended from Heaven to receive His people with open hands. As the Scriptures state, there was no light of SUN, MOON or STARS, it was the brightness of His presence. It was a beautiful revelation and had bliss feelings. There were two groups of humankind. The people [one group] who went up in the clouds to meet Yeshua and their earthly bodies were transformed in to glorified bodies [celestial bodies] that happened in fraction of a second as mentioned in 1

Corinthians 15:51-52 and were shining very bright in the presence of Yeshua, and the other group remained on the earth to face consequences of The Great Tribulation. Luckily by the GRACE of GOD, I saw myself being in the group of people who went up in clouds to meet Yeshua, but I remember one of my relatives was in the other group. Then the alarm clock rang at 4:00 am.

Initially I thought it was about the second coming of Yeshua and His 1000-years reign on Earth, but The Holy Spirit revealed me that it was about the Rapture Event that will take place in the pre- tribulation period.

#### **[4] & [5] The Short Vision and The Gift of Tongues**

After about 5 and half months [163 days] of the short dream of The Rapture, I received The Gift of Tongues. This time it was The Gift of the Holy Spirit. The date of receiving the gift was on 8th December 2020 between 12:50 am and 1:20 am. On 7th December 2020 around 8:00pm, I was having an in-depth Bible study and reflections on The Rapture events. In between I had a short vision [I was taken away about 15-20 minutes from my natural state], but I could not recall what had happened to me during this short period. I felt like I slept for a while. I do recall that immediate before this event neither I was feeling tired nor sleepy. It transpired all of a sudden and when my eyes opened, I was very much afresh; as nothing had happened to me. There was no sign of feeling a sleep at all. Immediately, I tried to recall what had happened to me but couldn't recall any supernatural sign. I can say that I was taken away for 15-20 minutes from my natural state. Then without wasting my time in thinking about it I continued my study and reflections on the Rapture related events mentioned in the Bible. Once the study was over [around 11:00pm-11:15 pm], I started to watch a video on "HOW CAN I BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT" which was made by Rev. Amit Christian, an Evangelical Bible preacher from India. At the end of the message he said that those who want to receive "THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT", please stand up. He emphasised that it's not a compulsion and requested only those who really want them voluntarily. I knelt down and started praying with the preacher, and all of a sudden, my tongue started praying in unknown heavenly language. My tongue was not in my control and this was the very first prayer in my life [as I remember] that I prayed in the spirit.

#### **[6] Supernatural Experience and the Dream of Angels**

After about 4 months [124 days] of The Gift of Tongues, I had another supernatural experience in my life and had a dream of heavenly beings. This time it was The Angels. The date of this event was on 12th April 2021 between 7:25am – 8:00am and a dream around 11:00pm -12:00 night on the same date. On 11th April 2021, we [I & my wife] handed over our all household items to Packers & Movers team for its shifting from Delhi to Odisha, and on 12th April 2021 early morning [after handing over the keys of rented house to the house owner] we started to wait auto taxi to drop us to the railway station. It took us about 30 minutes to get an auto taxi [3 wheeler] and we had left only 35 minutes time to reach the station and board the train. We were also carrying about 6-7 heavy luggage with us, and within this 35 minutes we had to reach, go through the special

checking procedure at station [due to COVID] and rush towards the platform no. 5 and board the train.

Practically it was impossible, until and unless the train is delayed or some supernatural miracle happens. We started at 7:25am from Katwaria Sarai [Near IIT, Delhi] and the train was scheduled to depart at 8:00am from Anand Vihar Railway station. The distance between Katwaria Sarai and Anand Vihar Railway station is about 24km, which takes around 45 -60min by auto taxi. In auto both of us kept mum for almost 30 minutes. We had no options left with us, except to remember and surrender everything to Him. We prayed Him individually. I prayed Him "Lord this is your plan that we should leave Delhi, and now we are in your hands...please take care of us", whereas my wife prayed, "Lord let us not miss the train". We don't know how it happened, but we reached station at 7:50am (in 25 minutes). A coolie with luggage carrier cart was waiting to receive us at railway station. He ask the name of the train, kept our luggage in the cart and said us to follow him. We kept running after him, no one asked or stopped us to check the ticket or scan the luggage at entrance, and by 7:55am we were at platform no. 5 next to the coach of our reserved berths. He also helped us to get in our luggage in the train. Then I thanked him and paid the agreed labor fee INR 400. He smiled and left. We kept the luggage and took our respective berths, and within 1 minute train left the station. The train was on time and left the platform at exactly 8:00am....Wow! what a miracle...We thanked Him for the superb plan.

Around 9:00pm we had our dinner and went back to our respective berths [I took the upper berth]. I read some chapters from the Bible, prayed in heavenly tongue and slept. Around 11:00pm – 12:00 night I had a dream. In the dream I was standing with a small group of people in an unknown place. All of a sudden something like a sea of glass as mentioned in the Revelation 4:6 and 15:2 spread across the ground. It looked like a still calm sea water surface.

Then in my right side at the end of sea I saw a marvelous City / Throne. At once I stepped down on the sea and walked on the water like Peter did in Matthew 14:29. I do remember that I was not afraid of walking on the water surface but after few steps I started sinking similar to Peter had in Matthew 14:30. I didn't cry as Peter did and within no time water came upto the level of my waist. Then I saw three angels came on motor boat [their garment were pure white, I can realise that they were not of this world because they were in their celestial bodies] and one of them stretched forth his hand and caught me as Yeshua did to Peter in Matthew 14:31, and took me with them into the boat.

## **[7] The Short Vision of Heaven**

After about 2 and half months [76 days] of Dream of Angles, I had another short vision. This time it was vision of Heaven. The date of this vision was on 28th June 2021 between 3:40am – 3:50am. It was just for a fraction of second. I saw on clouds opening of Heaven. It was not merely the clouds parting or appearing something on clouds, but opening of Heaven as mentioned in Ezekiel 1:1; Mark 1:10; Acts 7:56 and Revelation 4:1.



The vision was similar to Prophet Micaiah as recorded in 1 Kings 22:19, "I saw the LORD sitting on His Throne, and all the host of heaven standing by Him on His right hand and on His left." The vision was amazing and beyond the human imagination. There is nothing on this world that can be used to compare this. When I had this vision, at once my spirit started praising LORD in heavenly language and I got up.

### **[8] The Short Vision of Heaven and Fall of Satan**

After 3 months [i.e. 84 days] of The Short Vision of Heaven, I had another short vision. This time it was again the Vision of Heaven and Fall of Satan. The date of this vision was on 20th September 2021 between 1:10am – 1:15am and on 21st September 2021 around 12:10am. On 20th September 2021, I saw on clouds opening of Heaven. The opening of Heaven was similar to my earlier vision of 28th June 2021, and I saw the LORD sitting on His Throne, and all the host of Heaven standing by Him on His right hand and on His left. All the host of Heaven were praising the LORD in the same manner as mentioned in Revelation 12:10 which says, "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."

I also saw the Satan and his angels falling down from heaven as mentioned in Revelation 12:8-9 "neither was their place found anymore in heaven. He was cast out unto the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."; and said by Yeshua in Luke 10:18, "And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven."

And I saw the earth became dark as mentioned in Isaiah 13:10; Joel 2:10; Matthew 24:29; Revelation 6:12 and Revelation 8:12 which say "the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and star shall withdraw their shining." Then my wife put on the fan, and my vision discontinued and I came back to my natural realm. scene in Heaven as well as tone of praise was different from the vision of 20th September 2021. It was something similar to the Alleluia! as mentioned in Revelation 19:1-8 & Psalm 118:24 i.e. "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it."

**Connect With Me:** If you would like to connect me, please drop me an email at [info@samirstephan.com](mailto:info@samirstephan.com). I will get back to you soon.

**You can also visit me at** <https://allrevelations.org>; <https://allrevelation.org>; and <https://allrevelations.com>