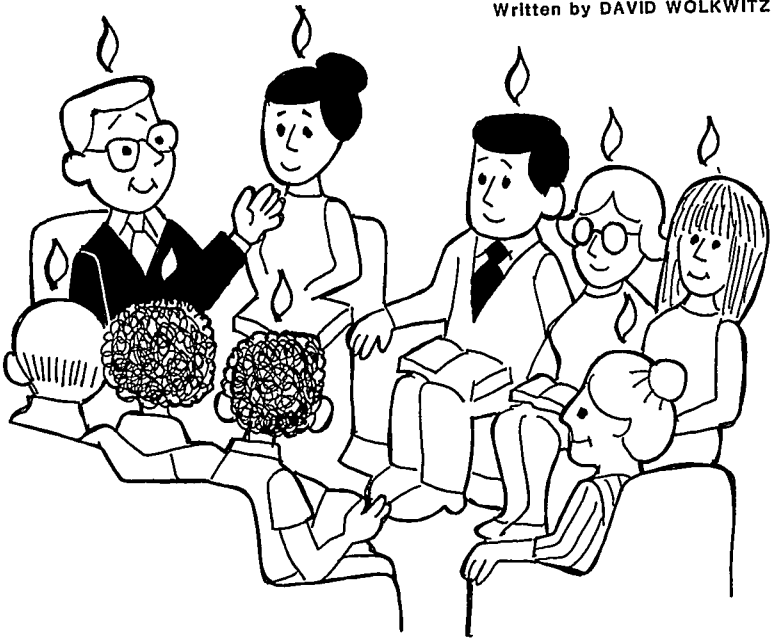


"ENCOUNTER" FOR REVIVAL OF POWER

*Twenty-six studies on
the HOLY SPIRIT*

Written by DAVID WOLKWITZ



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FOREWORD

David Wolkwitz has served in the denomination for 23 years as a pastor and evangelist in Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas-Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Arizona and Oklahoma, as well as serving as a chaplain at Moberly Regional Medical Center in Missouri for three and a half years. He is presently director of Outreach Ministries for the ASI in the Pacific Union.

In 1980, his mother, Mrs. Lucille Wolkwitz, attended a Lay Evangelists Training Seminar in Missouri. At the end of the week she declared, "I will have to urge my son David, who is an evangelist, to attend such a seminar." A few months later David and I met for the first time in Pennsylvania. David was sold on the idea of training thousands of church members as lay evangelists. I asked him if he would attend some of these seminars as chaplain, and I requested him to prepare six special topics about the Holy Spirit to be presented each morning to the group of lay-evangelists-to-be. David accepted with enthusiasm. During the last few years Dave and I have been together at a number of Lay Evangelists Training Seminars. Dave's morning worship presentations have touched hundreds of hearts, including mine. The Lord has really touched his lips with a coal from the divine altar.

David has prayerfully studied the word of God and the messages left by Ellen G. White in relation to the Holy Spirit. He has received invitations from many parts of North America to present his weekend workshop about how the Holy Spirit may change the surrendered life for the best and make of the person a true witness for Jesus.

The General Conference Department of Church Ministries asked David to put his messages into writing and prepare a number of lessons. These were to be used by the lay-evangelists-to-be who had attended the seminars to share systematically, week after week, the lessons on the Holy Spirit with the members of their Action Teams. David accepted, and what you have in your hands today is the product of his years of dedication to evangelism and a thorough study of the Holy Spirit.

I know that David's wife, Gaylene, has stood at his side and is now closely involved in sharing these messages. Dave and Gaylene have a married daughter and a son, all of them very much involved in church activities.

What you will study in this book is not something that comes from books; it is the true experience of a Christian couple as they have dedicated their lives to this ministry that is changing lives. As it is now printed and in our hands, may your life, my life, and many more lives be changed as we permit the Holy Spirit to have full control.

Samuel F. Monnier, Associate Director
General Conference Department of Church Ministries

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

"All glory and honor and praise to the Holy Trio, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for the plan of salvation with all its glorious provisions for man's redemption, wonderfully revealed in the Scriptures and marvelously illuminated in the writings of Ellen G. White." (Preparing for the LATTER RAIN, by DeWitt S. Osgood, Southern Publishing Association, 1973).

I have borrowed the previous paragraph from Osgood's acknowledgements in his book because it so beautifully states my gratitude to heaven for the invaluable aid of those two invaluable resources of the Scriptures and the writings of Ellen G. White in regard to this special subject of the Holy Spirit.

How often during the time it has taken to write this material on the Holy Spirit I have sat at my computer not knowing what to write next! At such times, I would simply bow my head and ask for wisdom from above--that an angel might be sent to stand beside me to give me the concepts and understanding I needed. I do not know the angel's name; yet I know that without this heaven-sent help, I could never have finished this assignment.

The original concept for this set of studies was suggested by Elder Samuel Monnier at a Lay Evangelists Training Seminar at Glacier View youth camp in Colorado. In addition, he has written many letters to keep the encouragement flowing my way. His patience during the many, many months which it has taken to accomplish this task will always be remembered.

In preparing this material for publication, the editorial assistance of Ethel Randall, secretary in the General Conference Church Ministries Department, has been invaluable! Without her expertise the syntax would simply have been unacceptable. Also to my dear wife, Gaylene, goes much appreciation for her editorial suggestions and encouragement. To borrow again from Osgood--"Many others, both ministers and laity, have enriched my ministry and blessed" my efforts in these studies. To my children, Jacinda and Jonathan, as well as to Larry Pitrone, Dick Wilcox and many others who have shown encouraging interest, a special thank you.

If only the latter rain and the second coming of Jesus our Saviour can be hastened by some inspiration and resulting action received from these studies, may His holy name be praised!

Outline of Twenty-six Studies on the Holy Spirit

ENCOUNTER FOR REVIVAL OF POWER

Human Effort Plus Divine Power Equals Success!

- A. THE HOLY SPIRIT - God's Answer
- B. THE HOLY SPIRIT - God's Answer for My Life
- C. THE HOLY SPIRIT - God's Answer for My Home
- D. THE HOLY SPIRIT - God's Answer for Effective Witnessing
- E. THE HOLY SPIRIT - God's Answer for a Finished Work

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General Introduction

Something must be done! Complete preparations must be finished so Jesus can come. Nearly a century and a half has passed since the great Midnight Cry and the beginning of the preaching of the Three Angels' Messages of Revelation 14, and still the way has not been completely prepared for Jesus to return. And Jesus could have returned, "long ere this. . . !"

Where is our sense of urgency? Where are those concerned men, women and young people who make up the Remnant? There does not seem to be enough concern when year after year passes away and still He does not return! Surely it cannot be a part of God's ordained plan for this wonderful message to go on this long, to encircle the globe and still the work not be completed.

If we are conscientiously concerned, we must of necessity ask ourselves the question--Do we really want Jesus to return soon? At first the question seems unnecessary, but considered in context we begin to recognize the importance of the question. If we have been "working at it" for a century and a half, shouldn't we carefully consider the efficiency (or lack of it) in accomplishing the task that we've been given?

When we consider Pentecost and the same divine mandate of the early church to take the gospel to the whole world, we sense that they must have had something that we do not have, at least in sufficient and comparable quantity. At first glance, this may seem to be an unfair comparison. We have much greater experience; our facilities and institutions are so many more; and our membership!--what is 120 compared to several million! Be alerted, all of this which may appear to be an unfair comparison is just the point. As a church, we have so very much more of things that seem to give might and power, but honestly, could it be that as a people--individually and corporately--we have less of, or are less possessed by, that most important essential--Christ's highest gift--The Holy Spirit.

It is important to remember in our process of self-analysis that we must never even appear to attack or destructively criticize God's church. His servant wrote: **"We should remember that the church, enfeebled and defective though it be, is the only object on earth on which Christ bestows His supreme regard."** (2 Selected Messages, p. 396). She then continues: **"He is constantly watching it (the church) with solicitude, and is strengthening it by His Holy Spirit."** (Ibid.) At least two possible responses can be drawn from these quotes. First we could respond by saying that we will just sit back in complacency and think, oh well, it will probably all turn out all right anyway. Or, we could approach the subject with fear and trembling, asking God if there is anything in His counsel that we may have overlooked which is of special importance for completion of the worldwide task. Is there anything? What could it possibly be?

Part of the clue is to be found in the book Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 509: **"The secret of success is the union of divine power with human effort."** Success--how sweet the word, and how especially meaningful in light of our assigned task. Hence, as the servant of the Lord tells us what the secret of success is, we take special notice; it is dependent on two specific things. At first glance, neither of these two things has been overlooked, have they? Don't we very often quote Zechariah 4:6: **". . .Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord of hosts."** And was not a past General Conference Session theme song on this very subject? Where then is the clue in the above statement?

Let us consider the two things separately; first, human effort. Every conference around the world is sufficiently concerned about properly trained laity that a personal representative is usually appointed to carry out the programs for such training. In fact, the marvelous machinery of this great church (and I say that with deep respect) is geared for all that human effort can possibly accomplish. Planning sessions are continually searching for better methods and plans so that the great task before us can be completed. There seems to be little lacking on this point, at least when it comes to projecting human effort.

And the second point, divine power, everyone knows refers to the power of the Holy Spirit. And we have that power in the church, don't we? It surely is true that we could not have accomplished all that we have without His aid. But let us take a more careful look at this factor of divine power. Consider the following from Historical Sketches, p. 294: **"The missionary movement is far in advance of the missionary spirit."** Or consider 1 Selected Messages, p. 411: **"The Holy Spirit is wanting (lacking) in our work."**

How can these things be? Consider carefully, is it possible that we could be so convicted of our need to be about our Father's business because time is short, that we overlook or fail to emphasize enough the need of the Power by which His work is to be done?

This last question is this author's conclusion from which this set of lessons comes. For several years now this burden has been growing on my heart. I must admit that at first, as this burden began to grow and then became heavy, I was unable or unwilling to accept almost any connection between the Holy Spirit and the need to witness. But the Lord has been patient in His leading. It is very clear that both must go together--they cannot be separated, especially as we look again at the previous statement which says that **"The secret of success is the union of divine power with human effort."**

Therefore, the conviction is growing that after putting so much emphasis on the human effort side for so many years, we should continue our privilege of witnessing, but begin anew to earnestly seek for the daily and latter rain measure of the Holy Spirit. IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL THAT WE AWAKE TO OUR LACK IN THIS REGARD! The servant of the Lord felt this need for the church very keenly. She said: **". . .what**

promise do we know less about by its practical fulfillment than this rich promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit, whereby efficiency is to be given to all our spiritual labor." (Testimonies to Ministers, p. 174. (Italics supplied).

It is my prayer that these lessons will awaken or strengthen anew your own conviction that a revival of the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit is our need of all needs, both in our individual lives and in this wonderful Remnant Church. May the Saviour give you a rich measure of this Spirit--His greatest Gift--to guide you through a rewarding study of this subject.

All in the name of Jesus,

David Wolkwitz, Pastor



Section A - Part 1
THE HOLY SPIRIT - God's Answer

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

Overall Objective of This Section:

In this section we are dealing with the biblical truth that through Christ the Holy Spirit is God's answer for our current world. We will be discussing in this section: Who He is--a member of the Trinity; What is His Role?--Christ's special representative; How has He Worked?--in both Old and New Testaments; and finally, Christ's Eagerness to Send Him!

Introduction

Before we can deal with the fact that the Holy Spirit is God's answer for my life, my home, for effective witnessing, and thus for a finished work, we must first seek to learn His specific functions. In this lesson the purpose is to show from inspiration Who the Holy Spirit is, as far as it is possible for the human mind to grasp. And to do this, not from logic or mere fact, but much more importantly, to understand this through the Christian's faith in Christ and His righteousness.

Please note first of all the great importance which the Saviour placed upon the subject of the Holy Spirit:

"Christ, the Great Teacher, had an infinite variety of subjects from which to choose, but the one upon which He dwelt most largely was the endowment of the Holy Spirit. What great things He predicted for the church because of this endowment. Yet what subject is less dwelt upon now? What promise is less fulfilled? An occasional discourse is given upon the Holy Spirit, and then the subject is left for after consideration." (1 Selected Messages, pp. 156,157).

As we contemplate this statement for a few moments, we become aware that nearly one hundred years after it was written, ironically it still appears to be true today! Notice the following statement in which the servant of the Lord was shown, even more graphically, the need of the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives:

". . .I seemed to be in meeting, presenting the necessity and importance of our receiving the Spirit. This was the burden of my labor--the opening of our hearts to the Holy SpiritIn my dream a sentinel stood at the door of an important building, and asked every one who came for entrance, 'Have ye received the Holy Ghost?' A measuring-line was in his hand,

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and only very, very few were admitted into the building." (1 Selected Messages, p. 109).

How much more we need the divine presence of this gift which was purchased for us at infinite cost! Our need is far greater than we imagine in order to bring about a finished work of character development within us individually, and through the latter rain to also effect this finished work on the earth, a work that has been over 140 years in process and in reality is still far from being completed today.

The Great Scriptural Doctrine of the Trinity

In Genesis 1:1 the Scripture says that "God created the heavens and the earth." Who was this "God"? In some places in Scripture the reference is to Christ as the Creator (see John 1 and Colossians 1). In Hebrews 1:1,2 it implies that the Father was the Creator with Christ acting as co-Creator; and then according to the first chapter of Genesis it is the Spirit of God who was the active agent of creation. How do these passages harmonize?

The secret is found in the first verse of the Bible. The word "God" in this verse is the Hebrew word "Elohim" which is the plural form of the word and means "two or more." Hence, all the passages are correct and the Scriptures are trying to tell us that all three, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit worked together in the creation of our world. Let us illustrate this even further.

In the Old Testament there are many references which indicate that the heavenly Godhead consists of more than one person or personality. In Genesis 1:26, there are three personal pronouns--"Us, Our, Our." Notice also that in Genesis 3:22 and 11:6,7; and also in Isaiah 6:8, it is obvious that there is definitely more than one personality indicated.

In the New Testament it is also clear that there is more than one being intended in the truth of the divine Godhead, and that the Holy Spirit is included. Matthew 28:19,20 associates the Holy Spirit with God the Father and God the Son, as their equal! Thus the Trinity is not $1+1+1=3$, but rather $1+1+1=$ one Godhead with three separate personalities. Thus the Holy Spirit is equally divine with the Father and the Son.

The Holy Spirit is a Person

One of the reasons why the Holy Spirit is so mysterious in our thinking is because we think of Him as "It."

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However, He or Him does not refer to the Holy Spirit as male in contrast to female, but rather to denote a personality. The Holy Spirit is a person according to the Spirit of Prophecy, yet does not have a human personality. Notice:

"We need to realize that the Holy Spirit, who is as much a person as God is a person, is walking through these grounds." (Evangelism, p. 616).

"The Holy Spirit is Christ's representative, but divested of the personality of humanity, and independent thereof." (The Desire of Ages, p. 669). (Italics supplied).

You may want to look up the following biblical references which are ascribed to the Holy Spirit indicating that He is a Person--a divine Person.

1. He speaks - 1 Timothy 4:1.
2. He intercedes - Romans 8:26.
3. He testifies - John 15:26.
4. He directs - Acts 16:6,7.
5. He appoints - Acts 20:28.
6. He can be lied to - Acts 5:3,4.
7. He can be grieved - Ephesians 4:30.

Thus we see some of the emotions and actions which are characteristics of personality. Therefore, it should be clear, then, that the Holy Spirit is not some mystical force or vague influence; rather, He is a Person with the attributes of a divine personality.

We must here remember that in our desire to better understand the Holy Spirit, we must not even attempt to bring Him down to our level. The Holy Spirit is a divine Person--He is God! Notice the following attributes possessed by divinity and specifically attributed to the Holy Spirit:

1. He is omnipresent (everywhere present) - Psalm 139:7.
2. He is omniscient (all-knowing) - 1 Corinthians 2:10,11.
3. He is called "God" - Acts 5:4.

Conclusion

In conclusion there is one very important point to remember whenever one attempts to understand the Holy Spirit. Of course, there must be much prayer in any Bible study, but especially in the study of the Holy Spirit.

"The nature of the Holy Spirit is a mystery. Men cannot explain it, because the Lord has not revealed it to them. . . Regarding such mysteries, which are too deep for human understanding, silence is golden." (The Acts of the Apostles, p. 52).

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Hence this lesson and all that follow must be very prayerfully studied, not to understand the nature of His person, but rather to understand the importance of His work in our lives and through us in the lives of other people to bring them to the foot of the cross of Christ.

Discussion Point:

Summarize to the group what you have learned in this lesson about the Holy Spirit.

Benediction:

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen" (2 Corinthians 13:14).

Season of Prayer

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QUIZ

Question: 1. Even though Jesus had an "infinite variety of subjects from which to choose," which subject did He dwell more on than any other?

Answer: _____
_____. (page 7)

Question: 2. The Holy Spirit is equally divine with the Father and the Son.

Answer: True (page 8)
False

Question: 3. The Holy Spirit is a person, but does not have the human personality.

Answer: True (page 9)
False



Section A - Part 2
THE HOLY SPIRIT - GOD'S ANSWER

WHAT IS HIS ROLE? - Part One

Lesson Plan:

This topic will be divided into two lessons. In the first lesson, we will study what the special connection of the Holy Spirit was with the Son of God throughout Christ's ministry here on earth; then in the next lesson we will study the role of the Holy Spirit as He works in perfect harmony and identity with Christ in connection with our salvation.

Overall Objective:

To show what the role of the Holy Spirit is--Christ's personal representative. In illustrating this through Scripture, we shall notice the perfect interaction between Christ and the Helper that He promised. This interaction was and is so perfect that Jesus and the Holy Spirit are often referred to interchangeably or synonymously; however, this is not to suggest that they are the same person, but rather to show their perfect harmony. We will specifically study Jesus' earthly dependency on this divine member of the Godhead. And finally we will see that our dependency on the Holy Spirit is synonymous with dependency on Jesus Himself. It is Christ's way of making Himself present in us.

Jesus' Earthly Sojourn was Dependent on the Holy Spirit

As we begin this lesson, the following important point must be kept in mind. During His earthly mission, Jesus chose to be completely dependent on the third member of the Godhead, the Holy Spirit; yet this dependency did not in any way exclude or shut out the Father. Instead, the Holy Spirit was the means, or the agency by which the Father worked for and through His Son. Keep this relationship in mind.

Jesus was Dependent at His Birth

One of the most difficult areas in comprehending the virgin birth of Jesus was the role that the Holy Spirit played. Matthew 1:18,20 clearly states that the Holy Spirit played a key role. We cannot of course understand these details, but when remembering the Holy Spirit's active role in the creation of the world, that He "moved on the face of the waters," then it would follow that the Holy Spirit must have also been the active agent in the creation of the human form of Jesus. And so even at His birth, Jesus was dependent on the divine power of the Holy Spirit.