Ministry of Reconciliation (MOR) Bible Teachings



October 2020

Father, thank you for your Word, which tells your Will. Father, thank you for your gift of holy spirit. Father, thank you for each believer's zeal and thoroughness to study your Word and rightly dividing it, so we can manifest it in our daily lives. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

Summary from <u>September 2020</u> teaching:

We discussed what the numbers one (1) and eight (8) mean in God's Word. We read Ephesians 4:4-6, learned about the eight unities listed. We reviewed the first unity of the spirit, "body." We learned in this physical body, we must keep our unity with God our Father and His son, as we make haste and manifest due diligence, earnestness, and zeal to do our utmost by believing there is one body, one spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father! And we also reviewed some of scriptures on the Greek word "soma" which is our English word for body.

This month's teaching will focus on **Unity One "Spirit."** We will review what God's Word says about who God is, discuss what the number two (2) means in God's Word with examples, and continue our Word-based study on the word "Spirit."

God is *pneuma* or Spirit (see John 4:24). God is also *hagion* or Holy (see 1 Samuel 6:20). Therefore, the Holy Spirit is God and God is the Holy Spirit. When God's Word refers to God the giver, the phrase Holy Spirit must always be capitalized with a capital "H" and "S."

John 4:24 provides explanation:

God is Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit [by speaking in tongues] and in truth.

The article "the" is used when referring to God the giver. I shared with you (see March 2016) that the two Greek words in the New Testament, *pneuma* (spirit) *hagion* (holy), are rarely used in reference to the Holy Spirit who is God the giver. Thus, *pneuma hagion* refers to the gift given on the day of Pentecost, and should always be translated with a lower-case "h" and a small "s." In other words, when the Bible refers to God's gift of holy spirit, it must always be a lower-case "h" and "s."

John 3:6 describes both God the giver and His gift of spirit.

. . . that which is born of the Spirit [God the giver] is spirit [God's gift].

God is Holy Spirit and can only give that which He is - holy spirit. When we hear God's Word taught, and we believe it and act on it, we receive the results. You receive God's Spirit by confessing with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believing in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you shall be saved or born-again. Turn to Romans 10:9-10:

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Spirit is listed second in the eight unities documented in Ephesians 4, which we discussed in the <u>September 2020</u> teaching.

Let's look at the number two (2) throughout the Word of God, which signifies difference or division. The number two has an extraordinary usage, in that if two agree, it is definite (see Matthew 18:19). Ecclesiastes 4:9-11 reminds us:

Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labor.

For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone?

In God's Word there are several examples of the number 2 with regards to difference or division:

- The serpent seed and the seed of the woman (Genesis 3:15).
- Cain and Abel (Genesis 4:8).
- Two Gods the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 15:6) and the god of this world (2 Corinthians 4:4).
- In the Gospel, Jesus Christ is the bridegroom (Mark 2:19) versus in the church Epistles, Christ is the head of the church (Ephesians 5:23).
- God is our Father; we are "born-again, not of corruptible seed, but of
 incorruptible, by the Word of God, which lives and abides forever (1 Peter 1: 23)
 and the children of the devil has his spiritual corruptible seed.

- We are children of the light and the children of the day. We are not of the night, nor of darkness (1 Thessalonians 5:5).
- We are divided by who our Father is! The children of the true God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ are in direct opposition to the children of the Devil (1 John 3:9-10).

The second unity listed in Ephesians 4:4 is "Spirit." Let's perform a Word-based study of this second unity. The Greek word *pneuma* is our English word "Spirit," which means ". . breathing as the sign and condition of life, breath. That which cannot be apprehended by the senses, but is recognized only by its operations or manifestation, as it is seen in life. Is the life principle springing from God?" (Source: *E. W. Bullinger's Critical Lexicon and Concordance to the English and Greek New Testament* 1975).

In Acts 2:4 where the day of Pentecost is documented:

And they [the twelve Apostles] were all filled with the Holy Ghost [the gift of holy spirit], and [they the twelve Apostles] began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit [God] gave them utterance. (see March 2016 teaching)

The gift of holy spirit we received, when we confessed Jesus as Lord and believed in our hearts that God raised him from the dead, is also called:

- The promise of the Father (Acts 1:4)
- The inner man (Ephesians 3:16)
- The new man (Ephesians 4:24)
- Christ in you, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27)

Let us review some scriptures for the Greek word *pneuma* or our English word "Spirit." We will look at scriptures after the day of Pentecost, as there was no one born-again of God's Spirit before the day of Pentecost. We will start with Acts 2:4.

And they [the twelve Apostles] were all filled with the Holy Ghost [pneuma,- the gift of holy spirit], and [they, the twelve Apostles] began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit [God the giver] gave them utterance.

Romans 1:9:

For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit [pneuma - the gift of holy spirit] in the gospel [the good news] of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers.

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Romans 8:5:

For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit [pneuma - the gift of holy spirit] things of the Spirit [pneuma - God].

Romans 8:11:

But if the Spirit [pneuma -the gift of holy spirit] of him [God] that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken [make alive] your mortal bodies by his [God's] Spirit [pneuma] that dwelleth in you.

Romans 8:16:

The Spirit [God - pneuma] itself beareth witness with our spirit [pneuma - the gift of holy spirit], that we are the children of God.

Every time we speak in tongues, it bears witness "that we are the children of God."

Romans 8:26:

Likewise, the Spirit [God - pneuma] also helps our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit [pneuma - the gift of holy spirit] itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered [with your five senses].

Ephesians 1:13:

In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit [the new birth which God is the giver - pneuma] of promise.

Ephesians 2:18:

For through him [Jesus Christ] we both [Judeans and Gentiles] have access by one Spirit [pneuma - the new birth-gift of holy spirit] unto the Father.

Ephesians 4:4:

There is one body, and one Spirit [God – pneuma - the giver- the new birth-gift of holy spirit], even as ye are called in one hope of your calling.

The one body is the church, and all in the church receive the same gift of holy spirit when we are born-again of God's Spirit!

Ephesians 6:17:

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit [God - pneuma], which is the word of God.

2 Thessalonians 2:13:

But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit [pneuma- the new birth-gift of holy spirit] and belief of the truth.

When we are born-again of God's Spirit, we are filled to the capacity with His gift of holy spirit; this is Christ in you the hope of glory (see Colossians 1:27)! Now we can immediately manifest outward that internal gift of holy spirit within by speaking in tongues. This is our witness in the senses world that we are born-again of God's Spirit and have eternal life!

Because you and I believe God's Word together, we run together, we walk together, we witness together, we stand together, and we shall absolutely be gathered up together in the air with Christ at his return (see 1 Thessalonians 4:17)!

We are identified with Jesus Christ. When he suffered, we suffered with him. When he died, we died with him. And we were buried with him and we were raised with him (see Romans 6:3-4; Colossians 2:12).

When Jesus ascended (see Ephesians 4:8), we ascended with him When he sat down at the right hand of the Father, we sat down with him (see Ephesians 2:6). We are joint heirs with Christ (see Romans 8:17). Therefore, I am identified with you through Jesus Christ, because we have the same Lord and savior. We all are born-again of God's Spirit!

We study God's Word so we can see how to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace with our brothers and sisters in the body of Christ. God's Word gives us the answers!

In this teaching, we reviewed what God's Word says who God is, discussed what the number two (2) means in God's Word through examples of differences or divisions and agreements. We also continued our Word-based study on the word "Spirit." The Word of God is the Will of God!

Father, thank you for your Word which enlightens us of your Will for your children. Thank you for giving us an understanding of your Word so we can build our belief on

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your Word for which we are united by one spirit. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

Next month's teaching will do a Word-based study on "hope," the third unity of the eight unities listed in Ephesians 4.

In the Lord,

Ministry of Reconciliation Son of God through Jesus Christ Ambassador for Christ

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