

Lesson 72: The Third Person of the Godhead – 3

Memory Verse: John 3:5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

IV. The Holy Spirit is an Agent in Redemption

1. Who came to Jesus to talk to Him at night? **John 3:1,2**

"There was a man of the Pharisees, named _____, a ruler of the Jews: The same _____ to _____ by _____."

? What did he say to Jesus? **John 3:2** "And said unto him, _____, we _____ that thou art a _____ come from _____: for no _____ can do these _____ that thou doest, except _____ be _____ him."

? What was Jesus' answer to him? **John 3:3**

"Jesus _____ and said unto him, Verily, _____, I say unto thee, _____ a man be born _____, he _____ see the _____ of _____."

Note: "Instead of recognizing this salutation, Jesus bent His eyes upon the speaker, as if reading his very soul. In His infinite wisdom He saw before Him **a seeker after truth**. He knew the **object** of this visit, and with a desire to **deepen the conviction** already resting upon His listener's mind, He came directly to the point, saying solemnly, yet kindly, 'Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born from above, he cannot see the kingdom of God.' John 3:3, margin." DA 168.4

"Nicodemus had come to the Lord thinking to enter into a **discussion** with Him, but Jesus laid bare the **foundation principles of truth**.

He said to Nicodemus, It is not **theoretical** knowledge you need so much as **spiritual regeneration**.

You need not to have your **curiosity** satisfied, but to have a **new heart**.

You must receive a new life from above before you can appreciate heavenly things.

Until this change takes place, making all things new,

it will result in **no saving good** for you to discuss with Me My authority or My mission." DA 171.1

? What did Nicodemus want to have with Jesus? A D _____

? What did Jesus' answer tell him he didn't need?

You don't need more T _____ knowledge.

You don't need to have your C _____ satisfied about who I am right now.

It will do you no good just to discuss My A _____ or My M _____.

? What did Jesus tell him that he needed very much?

He needed S _____ regeneration (reformation, renewal).

He needed a New _____.

He needed L _____ from above, from G _____.

This change makes all things _____.

Then he could appreciate _____ things.

"Nicodemus had heard the preaching of John the Baptist concerning **repentance** and **baptism**, and pointing the people to **One** who should baptize with the Holy Spirit. He himself had felt that there was a **lack of spirituality** among the Jews, that, to a great degree, they were **controlled by bigotry and worldly ambition**. He had **hoped** for a better state of things at the Messiah's coming.

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Yet the heart-searching message of the Baptist had **failed to work in him conviction of sin**. He was a strict Pharisee, and **prided himself on his good works**. He was widely esteemed for his **benevolence** and his **liberality** in sustaining the temple service, and **he felt secure of the favor of God**. He was **startled** at the thought of **a kingdom too pure for him to see in his present state**." DA 171.2

? Whose preaching had Nicodemus heard? The preaching of _____ the _____.

? To whom did he apply the need for repentance? He applied it to those Jews who lacked S _____ and who were controlled by B _____ and worldly A _____.

? How did the message of John affect Nicodemus?

He himself was not C _____ of sin.

He thought that he himself was secure of God's F _____.

He was a proud P _____ who did many good W _____.

People honored him because of his B _____ and L _____.

? When Jesus told him that he must be born again, what did he think?

He was S _____ that the K _____ could be too P _____ for him.

"The figure of the **new birth**, which Jesus had used, was **not wholly unfamiliar** to Nicodemus.

Converts from heathenism to the faith of Israel were often **compared to children just born**.

Therefore he must have perceived that the words of Christ were **not** to be taken in a literal sense.

But by virtue of **his birth as an Israelite** he regarded **himself as sure** of a place in the kingdom of God.

He felt that **he needed no change**. Hence his surprise at the Saviour's words.

He was irritated by their close application to himself.

The **pride** of the Pharisee was struggling against the **honest desire** of the seeker after truth.

He wondered that Christ should speak to **him** as He did,
not respecting his position as ruler in Israel." DA 171.3

? What did Nicodemus know about the new birth?

If a H _____ wanted to join the faith of the Israelites
they were compared to children just _____.

? Why did he not think that he himself needed to be born again?

He was B _____ as an Israelite.

He thought that he was S _____ of a place in the K _____ of God.

He did not think that he himself needed any C _____.

? Why was he surprised and irritated by the words of Christ?

It was because J _____ applied them to him.

It was because he was a P _____ Pharisee who did a lot of good things.

It was because Christ did not seem to R _____ his position as a R _____ in Israel.

2. How did Nicodemus answer Jesus? **John 3:4**

"Nicodemus saith unto him, _____ can a man be _____ when he is _____?
can he enter the _____ time into his _____ womb, and be _____?"

? Then how did Jesus reply to this question? **John 3:5-7**

"Jesus answered, Verily, _____, I say unto thee, _____ a man be born of
_____ and of the _____, he _____ enter into the _____ of God."

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That which is _____ of the flesh is _____; and that which is _____ of the Spirit is _____.

Marvel _____ that I _____ unto thee, Ye _____ be born _____."

Note: "Surprised out of his self-possession, he answered Christ in words full of irony, 'How can a man be born when he is old?' Like many others when cutting truth is brought home to the conscience, **he revealed the fact that the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God**. There is in him **nothing** that responds to spiritual things; for spiritual things are spiritually discerned." DA 171.4

"But the Saviour did not meet argument with argument. Raising His hand with **solemn, quiet dignity**, **He pressed the truth home with greater assurance**, 'Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.' Nicodemus **knew** that Christ here referred to **water baptism and the renewing of the heart by the Spirit of God**. He was **convinced** that he was in the presence of **the One** whom John the Baptist had foretold." DA 171.5

"Jesus continued: 'That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.'

By nature the heart is evil:

📖 **Job 14:4** tells us: "Who can bring a _____ thing out of an _____? not _____."

No human invention can find a **remedy** for the sinning soul.

📖 What does **Romans 8:7** tell us about ourselves?

"The _____ mind is _____ against God: for it is not _____ to the _____ of God, neither indeed _____ be."

📖 Jesus tells us what this carnal mind is like in **Matthew 15:19**:

"For out of the _____ proceed _____ thoughts, _____, adulteries, fornications, _____, false witness, _____."

The **fountain** of the **heart** must be **purified** before the streams can become pure. He who is trying to reach heaven by his **own** works in keeping the law is attempting an impossibility. There is **no safety** for one who has merely a **legal religion, a form of godliness**. The Christian's life is **not a modification or improvement of the old**, but a **transformation of nature**. There is a **death to self and sin**, and a **new life altogether**. This **change** can be brought about **only** by the **effectual working of the Holy Spirit**." DA 172.1

? Why must even a "good" person who does good things like Nicodemus be born again?

It is because we are born with a sinful H_____ that is not able to stop sinning.

It is a heart that is at E_____ against God and not S_____ to His L_____.

This H_____ thinks wrong thoughts which produce W_____ feelings and words and actions.

When this heart tries to keep the L_____ without the power of God's Spirit, it is only a F_____ of G_____, not the real thing.

? What is a true Christian's life like?

It is NOT just a M_____ (a little change here and there) or I_____ of the _____ life.

It IS a T_____ (a complete change) of nature.

? How do we get such a transformation?

a. There is a D_____ to S_____ and S_____. We must **choose** this.

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b. There is a _____ life altogether. We must **choose** this.

c. This C_____ can only happen by the E_____ (producing the effect desired; having adequate power to produce that effect.) working of the H_____ S_____. The Holy Spirit has the P_____ to change our heart – when we C_____ to let Him and **yield** ourselves to Him to produce this change in us.

3. Jesus often used things of nature to illustrate spiritual truth. What did He use to illustrate the work of the Holy Spirit on the heart to Nicodemus. **John 3:8**

"The _____ bloweth where it listeth, and thou _____ the _____ thereof, but canst not _____ whence it _____, and whither it _____: **so** is _____ one that is _____ of the _____."

Note: "Nicodemus was still **perplexed**, and Jesus used the **wind** to **illustrate** His meaning: 'The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is everyone that is born of the Spirit.'" DA 172.2

"The wind is heard among the branches of the trees, rustling the leaves and flowers; yet it is **invisible**, and no man knows whence it comes or whither it goes. **So with the work of the Holy Spirit upon the heart.** It can no more be **explained** than can the movements of the wind. **A person may not be able to tell the exact time or place, or to trace all the circumstances in the process of conversion; but this does not prove him to be unconverted.** By an agency as unseen as the wind, Christ is constantly working upon the heart. Little by little, perhaps **unconsciously** to the receiver, **impressions** are made that tend to **draw** the soul to Christ. These may be received through **meditating** upon Him, through **reading** the Scriptures, or through **hearing** the word from the living preacher. **Suddenly, as the Spirit comes with more direct appeal, the soul gladly surrenders itself to Jesus.** By many this is called sudden conversion; but it is the result of **long wooing by the Spirit of God**, – a patient, protracted process." DA 172.3

? Can we explain HOW the Holy Spirit works on the heart? YES NO

? How often does the Holy Spirit work on our heart? C _____

? What does the Holy Spirit do to bring us to conversion?

He makes i _____ that tend to D _____ us to Christ.

? How may we receive these impressions?

– when we M _____ or think about Jesus.

– when we R _____ the Scriptures.

– when we H _____ a living preacher.

? When we finally gladly surrender ourselves to Jesus, is it actually a sudden thing?

YES NO It is the R _____ of the P _____ work of the Holy Spirit over much time in a L _____ W _____, or drawing, process.

? Is it possible to be converted even if we do not know the exact time or place of our conversion? YES NO

"While the wind is itself **invisible**, it produces **effects** that are **seen** and **felt**. So the work of the Spirit upon the soul **will reveal itself in every act** of him who has felt its saving power.

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When the Spirit of God takes **possession** of the heart, it **transforms** the life.

Sinful thoughts are put away,
evil deeds are renounced;
love, humility, and peace take the place of anger, envy, and strife.
Joy takes the place of sadness,
and the **countenance** reflects the light of heaven.

No one **sees** the hand that lifts the burden, or **beholds** the light descend from the courts above.

The blessing comes when by faith the soul surrenders itself to God.

Then that **power** which no human eye can **see** creates a **new** being in the image of God." DA 173.1

Even though the wind is i_____, we can S_____ and F_____ its effects.

In the same way, though we cannot see the _____, His work on the heart will be seen in every _____ of those who have felt its saving P_____. This is because when the Holy Spirit takes P_____ of the heart by our decision to Yield to Him, then our life is T_____.

Sinful T_____ are put away, or rejected.

Evil D_____ are renounced, or given up.

Instead of A_____, E_____, and S_____,
there will be L_____, H_____, and P_____.

Instead of S_____, there will be _____ which will be seen on the F_____.

? How do these blessings come to us?

When we, by F_____, S_____ ourselves to God. This is the **KEY**.

It brings that P_____ which no human eye can _____, the Holy Spirit, into our lives and C_____ a new being in the i_____, or character, of God.

"It is impossible for **finite** minds to comprehend the work of redemption. **Its mystery exceeds human knowledge**; yet he who passes from death to life **realizes that it is a divine reality**. The beginning of redemption we may **know** here through a **personal experience**. Its **results** reach through the eternal ages." DA 173.2

? Why is it that people cannot understand all about the work of redemption?

Our minds are F_____ – They are limited. **We** cannot know EVERYTHING.

God is inf_____ – He is without limits. **He** knows EVERYTHING.

This M_____ goes beyond human K_____.

? Does that mean that redemption is not real or that we cannot really have it?

YES NO

We may K_____ the reality of redemption through our own P_____
E_____.

It is something that has R_____ that will last throughout E_____ ages.

4. What question did Nicodemus ask Jesus now? **John 3:9**

"Nicodemus answered and said unto him, _____ can _____ things _____?"

Note: While Jesus was speaking, some gleams of truth penetrated the ruler's mind. **The softening, subduing influence of the Holy Spirit impressed his heart.** Yet he did not fully understand the Saviour's words. He was not so much impressed by the **necessity** of the new birth as by the **manner** of

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its accomplishment. He said wonderingly, "How can these things be?" DA 173.3

? What kind of mind did Nicodemus have? Finite or Infinite?

This is why he did not fully understand the Scriptures words.

? What was Jesus trying to impress upon his mind? The Nature of the new birth.

That is why Jesus had said to him, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3

? What was Nicodemus interested in knowing?

He wanted to know about the Messiah in which the new birth could be accomplished.

5. How did Jesus answer Nicodemus? Did He give him a detailed explanation about HOW it all works? YES NO John 3:10-12

"Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a Jew of Israel, and knowest these things? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We can see that we do, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive our witness. If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?"

Note: " 'Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?' Jesus asked. Surely one entrusted with the religious instruction of the people should not be ignorant of truths so important. His words conveyed the lesson that **instead of feeling irritated over the plain words of truth, Nicodemus should have had a very humble opinion** of himself, because of his spiritual ignorance. Yet Christ spoke with such **solemn dignity**, and both **look and tone expressed such earnest love**, that Nicodemus was not offended as he realized his humiliating condition." DA 173.4

? Should Nicodemus have understood the things that Jesus was telling him? YES NO

? Why should he have known them?

He was a Master in Israel – one entrusted with the religious instruction of the people.

? What lesson was Jesus trying to teach Nicodemus (and all of us too)?

The lesson that instead of feeling irritated over the plain words of truth, we should have a very humble opinion of ourselves because of our spiritual ignorance.

? How did Jesus give this hard lesson to Nicodemus?

He spoke with solemn dignity, and both His look and tone expressed earnest love.

"But as Jesus explained that His mission on earth was to establish a **spiritual** instead of a **temporal** kingdom, **His hearer was troubled**. Seeing this, Jesus added, 'If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?' If Nicodemus could not receive Christ's teaching, illustrating the **work of grace** upon the heart, **how could he comprehend the nature of His glorious heavenly kingdom?** Not discerning the nature of **Christ's work on earth**, he could not understand **His work in heaven.**" DA 173.5

? What was Jesus trying to explain to Nicodemus?

He wanted him to understand that His mission on earth was to establish a spiritual kingdom and not a temporal, earthly kingdom.

? What was Nicodemus having trouble understanding?

It was Christ's teaching which illustrated the work of grace on the heart. This was Christ's work on earth. This was what Nicodemus needed most of all.

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If Nicodemus could _____ understand this work of Christ on E_____, he would not understand His work in H_____ or His heavenly K_____.

6. What was the problem with the Jewish leaders?

📖 What scripture did they not apply to themselves? **Isaiah 64:6**

But we are _____ as an _____ thing, and all _____ righteousnesses are as _____ rags; and we _____ do _____ as a leaf; and our _____, like the wind, have taken us _____.

Note: The Jews whom Jesus had driven from the temple **claimed** to be children of Abraham, but they **fled** from the Saviour's presence because **they could not endure the glory of God which was manifested in Him**. Thus they gave **evidence** that they were **not fitted by the grace of God to participate in the sacred services of the temple**. They were zealous to maintain an **appearance** of holiness, but they **neglected holiness of heart**. While they were sticklers for the **letter** of the law, they were **constantly violating its spirit**.

Their great need was that very **change** which Christ had been explaining to Nicodemus,

a **new moral birth**,
a **cleansing** from sin,
and a **renewing** of knowledge and holiness. DA 173.6

There was **no excuse** for the blindness of Israel in regard to the work of regeneration.

📖 Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Isaiah had written in **Isaiah 64:6**:

"We are _____ as an unclean thing, and _____ righteousnesses are as filthy rags."

📖 David had prayed in **Psalms 51:10**:

"Create in me a _____ heart, O God; and _____ a _____ spirit within me."

📖 And through Ezekiel the promise had been given in **Ezekiel 36:26, 27**:

"A _____ heart also will I give you, and a _____ spirit will I put _____ you: and I will take _____ the _____ heart out of your flesh, and I will _____ you an heart of _____. And I will put My _____ within you, and _____ you to _____ in My statutes, and ye shall _____ my judgments and _____ them." DA 174.1

Nicodemus had read these scriptures with a **clouded** mind; **but he now began to comprehend their meaning**. He **saw** that the most **rigid** obedience to the **mere letter of the law** as applied to the outward life **could entitle no man to enter the kingdom of heaven**. In the estimation of **men**, his life had been just and honorable; but **in the presence of Christ** he felt that his heart was **unclean**, and his life **unholy**. DA 174.2

7. How would this great change be accomplished in the sinful, human heart?

John 3:14-16 "And as _____ lifted up the _____ in the wilderness, even so must the _____ of man be _____ up: That whosoever _____ in him should not _____, but have _____ life. For God so _____ the world, that he _____ his only begotten _____, that whosoever _____ in him should not _____, but have _____ life."

Note: **Nicodemus was being drawn to Christ**. As the Saviour explained to him concerning the new birth, **he longed to have this change wrought in himself**. By what means could it be accomplished?

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Jesus answered the unspoken question: "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life."
DA 174.3

"Here was ground with which Nicodemus was familiar. **The symbol of the uplifted serpent made plain to him the Saviour's mission.** When the people of Israel were dying from the sting of the fiery serpents, God directed Moses to make a serpent of brass, and place it on high in the midst of the congregation. Then the word was sounded throughout the encampment that **all who would look upon the serpent should live.** The people well knew that in itself the serpent had **no power to help them.** It was a symbol of Christ. As the image made in the likeness of the destroying serpents was lifted up for their healing, so **One** made "in the likeness of sinful flesh" was to be their Redeemer. Romans 8:3. Many of the Israelites regarded the sacrificial service as having in itself virtue to set them free from sin. **God desired to teach them that it had no more value than that serpent of brass.** It was to lead their minds to the **Saviour.** Whether for the healing of their wounds or the pardon of their sins, they could do nothing for themselves but show their faith in the Gift of God. They were to **look and live.**" DA 174.4

"Those who had been bitten by the serpents might have **delayed** to look. They might have **questioned** how there could be efficacy in that brazen symbol. They might have **demanding a scientific explanation.** But no explanation was given. **They must accept the word of God to them through Moses. To refuse to look was to perish.**" DA 175.1

"**Not through controversy and discussion is the soul enlightened. We must look and live.** Nicodemus received the lesson, and carried it with him. He searched the Scriptures in a **new way, not for the discussion of a theory, but in order to receive life for the soul.** He began to see the kingdom of heaven **as he submitted himself to the leading of the Holy Spirit.**" DA 175.2

8. What truth must we all learn? Acts 4:12

"Neither is there _____ in _____ other: for there is _____ other _____ under heaven given among men, _____ we must be _____."

Note: "There are thousands today who need to learn the same truth that was taught to Nicodemus by the uplifted serpent. **They depend on their obedience to the law of God to commend them to His favor.** When they are bidden to look to Jesus, and believe that **He saves them solely through His grace,** they exclaim, 'How can these things be?' " DA 175.3

"Like Nicodemus, **we must be willing to enter into life in the same way as the chief of sinners.** Than Christ, "there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12. Through **faith** we receive the **grace** of God; but faith is not our Saviour. It earns nothing. **It is the hand by which we lay hold upon Christ, and appropriate His merits, the remedy for sin.** And we **cannot** even repent without the aid of the Spirit of God.

 The Scripture says of Christ in **Acts 5:31:**

"Him hath God _____ with His right hand to be a _____ and a _____, for to _____ to Israel, and _____ of sins."

Repentance comes from Christ as truly as does pardon." DA 175.4

9. How, then, are we to be saved? **John 1:29**

The next day John seeth _____ coming unto him, and saith, _____ the _____ of God, which taketh _____ the _____ of the _____.

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Note: How, then, are we to be saved? 'As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness,' so the Son of man has been lifted up, and everyone who has been deceived and bitten by the serpent may look and live. 'Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.' John 1:29. The light shining from the cross reveals the love of God. **His love is drawing us to Himself.** If we do not resist this drawing, we shall be led to the foot of the cross in repentance for the sins that have crucified the Saviour. **Then** the Spirit of God through faith produces a new life in the soul. The thoughts and desires are brought into obedience to the will of Christ. The heart, the mind, are created anew in the image of Him who works in us to subdue all things to Himself. **Then** the law of God is written in the mind and heart, and we can say with Christ, in Psalm 40:8:

I _____ to do _____ will, O my _____: yea, thy _____ is within my _____.

DA 175.5

 Romans 5:5 tells us:

And _____ maketh not _____; because the _____ of God is _____ abroad in our _____ by the _____ which is _____ unto us.

V. The Holy Spirit Accompanies the Truth

10. How are we made holy, or sanctified? **John 17:17**

"Sanctify them through thy _____: thy _____ is _____."

⇒ The T_____ sanctifies us, or makes us holy, or Christlike. This T_____ is found in the _____ of God.

? What do we need to guide us into the truth of the word? **John 16:13**

"Howbeit when he, the _____ of truth, is come, he will _____ you into all _____: for he shall _____ speak of _____; but whatsoever he shall _____, that shall he _____: and he will _____ you things to _____."

⇒ We need the Holy _____, who is called the Spirit of _____ to G_____ us as we study God's W_____ so that we will understand and apply all T_____ correctly.

? How does Peter connect the **truth**, the **word**, and the **Holy Spirit**? **1 Peter 1:22,23**

"Seeing ye have _____ your souls in _____ the _____ through the _____ unto unfeigned _____ of the brethren, see that ye _____ one another with a _____ heart fervently: Being _____, not of corruptible _____, but of _____, by the _____ of God, which liveth and abideth for _____."

⇒ Jesus told Nicodemus that he must be B_____ again. Here it says that we are born again by the incorruptible S_____ which is the W_____ of God. God's word is T_____ and it S_____, or P_____ the soul. This comes through O_____ the word through the power of the Holy _____. The result is that we will have unfeigned _____ for the B_____.

 This is what Paul is talking about in **Ephesians 3:16-19**. Watch the connections:

"That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be _____ with might by his _____ in the _____ man; That Christ may _____ in your _____ by faith; that ye, being _____ and _____ in _____, May be able to _____"

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with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to _____ the _____ of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be _____ with all the _____ of God."

⇒ Now watch the way it works when you put these texts together:

The Holy _____ brings the T_____ of the W_____ of God into our H_____ and S_____ us internally – our mind and heart and soul. We are P_____ through O_____ to the truth through the Holy _____. This produces L_____ in our hearts because now C_____ dwells in our heart by F_____. We become R_____ and G_____, or firmly established, in L_____. We begin to C_____, or understand, more D_____ and B_____ and L_____ and H_____ of the L_____ of Christ and become filled with all the F_____ of God. This is how we are S_____ through the T_____ of the W_____ of God.

Note: The truth is efficient, and through **obedience** its power **changes the mind into the image of Jesus**. It is the **truth** as it is in Jesus that **quickens** the conscience and **transforms** the mind; for it is **accompanied to the heart by the holy Spirit**.

There are many, who, lacking spiritual discernment, take the **bare letter** of the word, and find that unaccompanied by the Spirit of God, it **quickens not the soul**, it sanctifies not the heart.

One may be able to quote from the Old and the New Testament, may be familiar with the commands and promises of the word of God; but **unless the holy Spirit sends the truth home to the heart, enlightening the mind with divine light, no soul falls upon the Rock and is broken; for it is the divine agency that connects the soul with God**.

Without the enlightenment of the Spirit of God, we shall not be able to discern truth from error, and shall fall under the masterful temptations and deceptions that Satan will bring upon the world.

We are near the close of the controversy between the Prince of light and the prince of darkness, and soon the delusions of the enemy will try our faith, of what sort it is.

Satan will work miracles in the sight of the beast, and deceive 'them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast.' " RH, Nov. 29, 1892 par. 1

11. In **Isaiah 60:1,2** Isaiah prophesies of a time when there is great D _____, but at that time, the L _____ of the glory of God is revealed upon His people:

"Arise, _____; for thy _____ is come, and the _____ of the _____ is risen upon thee. For, behold, the _____ shall _____ the earth, and _____ darkness the _____: but the _____ shall arise upon _____, and his _____ shall be seen upon thee."

Here we see the battle of the Great Controversy. It is between the L _____ of the glory of God – His character, and the D _____ of Satan – his character.

What is the character of God? It is the deep L _____ of Christ.

What is the character of Satan? It is the spirit of S _____ -seeking – S _____ ishness.

The battle is over the P _____ of the earth. Whose side will they choose?

Note: "But though the prince of darkness will work to cover the earth with darkness, and with gross darkness the people, **the Lord will manifest his converting power**. A work is to be accomplished in the earth **similar** to that which took place **at the outpouring of the holy Spirit** in the days of the early

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disciples, when they preached Jesus and him crucified. **Many will be converted in a day**; for the message will go with **power**. It can then be said: "Our gospel came not unto you **in word only**, but also in **power**, and in the **Holy Ghost**." **It is the holy Spirit that draws men to Christ**; for he takes of the things of God, and shows them unto the sinner. Jesus said: "He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you." RH, November 29, 1892 par. 2

12. What transformation did the gospel bring about in the Thessalonians as a result of the preaching of Paul through the power of the Holy Spirit? **1 Thessalonians 1:5-10**

"For our gospel came not unto you in word _____, but also in _____, and in the _____, and in much _____; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. And ye became _____ of us, and of the _____, having received the _____ in much affliction, with _____ of the _____: So that ye were _____ to all that believe in _____ and _____. For from you sounded _____ the _____ of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in _____ place your _____ to God-ward is _____ abroad; so that we need not to _____ any thing. For they themselves _____ of us what _____ of entering in we had unto you, and how ye _____ to _____ from _____ to serve the _____ and _____ God; And to wait for his _____ from heaven, whom he _____ from the dead, even _____, which _____ us from the wrath to come."

⇒ Through the power of the _____ the Thessalonians were completely changed. They turned from i_____ to serve the L_____ and T_____ God. Their conversion was know throughout all of M_____ and A_____ and is a powerful E_____ to others of faith in God.

Note: "The work of the holy Spirit is immeasurably great. It is from this source that power and efficiency come to the worker for God; and the holy Spirit is the comforter, as the personal presence of Christ to the soul. **He who looks to Christ in simple, childlike faith, is made a partaker of the divine nature through the agency of the holy Spirit**. When led by the Spirit of God, the Christian may know that he is made complete in him who is the head of all things. As Christ was glorified on the day of Pentecost, **so will he again be glorified in the closing work of the gospel**, when he shall prepare a people to **stand the final test**, in the **closing conflict** of the great controversy." RH, November 29, 1892 par. 3

13. What will be the final message to be given to the world? Revelation 18:1,2

"And after these things I saw another _____ come down from _____, having great _____; and the earth was _____ with his _____. And he cried _____ with a _____ voice, saying, Babylon the great is _____, is fallen, and is become the habitation of _____, and the hold of every foul _____, and a cage of every _____ and _____ bird."

Revelation 18:4 "And I heard another _____ from heaven, saying, Come _____ of her, my _____, that ye be not _____ of her _____, and that ye _____ not of her _____."

Note: "These announcements, uniting with the third angel's message, **constitute the final warning** to be given to the inhabitants of the earth." GC 604.1

Lesson 72: The Third Person of the Godhead – 3

"The people of God are to be **called out** from their association with worldlings and evil-doers, to **stand** in the battle for the Lord against the powers of darkness. When the earth is lightened with the glory of God, we shall see a work similar to that which was wrought when the disciples, filled with the holy Spirit, proclaimed the power of a risen Saviour. **The light of heaven penetrated the darkened minds of those who had been deceived by the enemies of Christ**, and the false representation of him was rejected; for **through the efficiency of the holy Spirit** they now saw him exalted to be a prince and Saviour, to give repentance unto Israel, and remission of sins. They saw him encircled with the glory of heaven, with infinite treasures in his hands to bestow upon those who turn from their rebellion. As the apostles set forth the glory of the only begotten of the Father, 3,000 souls were pricked to the heart, and they were made to see themselves as they were, sinful and polluted, and Christ as their Saviour and Redeemer. Christ was lifted up, Christ was glorified, through the power of the holy Spirit resting upon men. By the eye of faith these believers saw him as the one who had borne humiliation, suffering, and death, that they might not perish, but have everlasting life. **As they looked upon his spotless righteousness, they saw their own deformity and pollution**, and were **filled with godly fear**, with **love** and **adoration** for Him who gave his life a sacrifice for them. They **humbled** their souls to the very dust, and **repented** of their wicked works, and **glorified** God for his salvation." RH, Nov. 29, 1892 par. 5

14. **Note:** "The revelation of Christ by the holy Spirit brought to them a realizing sense of his power and majesty, and they stretched forth their hands unto him by faith, saying, 'I believe.' **Thus it was in the time of the early rain; but the latter rain will be more abundant.** The Saviour of men will be glorified, and **the earth will be lightened with the bright shining of the beams of his righteousness.** He is the fountain of light, and light from the gates ajar has been shining upon the people of God, that they may **lift him up in his glorious character before those who sit in darkness.**" RH, November 29, 1892 par. 6
In order for us to be used by God in the last great conflict of the Great Controversy, we need three essential things. What are they?

a. **2 Timothy 2:15** S _____ to shew thyself approved unto God, a _____ that needeth _____ to be ashamed, _____ dividing the _____ of _____.

⇒ We need to S _____ the Word of God **diligently**, so that we can give the T _____ to others with power and conviction.

"It is **Christ** in his fullness as a **sin-pardoning Saviour**, that the sinner must see; for the unparalleled **love** of Christ, **through the agency of the holy Spirit**, will bring **conviction** and **conversion** to the hardened heart." RH, November 29, 1892 par. 7

O that the atoning work of Christ might be carefully studied! O that all would **carefully** and **prayerfully study the word of God**, not to qualify themselves for debating controverted points of doctrine; but that **as hungry souls they might be filled**, as those that thirst, be refreshed at the fountain of life. **It is when we search the Scriptures with humble hearts, feeling our weakness and unworthiness, that Jesus is revealed to our souls in all his preciousness.**" RH, Nov. 29, 1892 par. 8

b. **Luke 11:13** "If ye then, being _____, know how to give _____ gifts unto your _____: how much _____ shall your heavenly _____ give the _____ to them that _____ him?"

Luke 11:9 "And I say unto you, _____, and it shall be _____ you; _____, and ye shall _____; _____, and it shall be _____ unto you."

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⇒ We must ask for the H_____ S_____ to bring the W_____ of God to the hearts of the people that they will be C_____ and C_____. Only the Holy Spirit can sweep away the D_____ of the errors of Satan and reveal the L_____ of the truth as it is in Jesus to others.

"O that we as a people might **humble our hearts before God, and plead with him for the endowment of the holy Spirit!** If we came to the Lord in **humility** and **contrition** of soul, he would **answer** our petitions; for he says that he is **more willing** to give us the holy Spirit than are parents to give good gifts to their children. **Then** would Christ be **glorified**, and in him we should discern the fullness of the Godhead bodily. For Christ has said of the Comforter, 'He shall glorify me; for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you.' **This is the thing most essential to us.** For 'this is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent.' "

RH, November 29, 1892 par. 9

c. **John 3:5** Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be _____ of _____ and of the _____, he _____ enter into the kingdom of God.

⇒ We need to be B_____ again ourselves. We need to be fully converted and transformed by the Holy S_____ 's working on our own hearts.

"The Holy Spirit moves upon the inner self until it becomes conscious of the divine power of God, and **every spiritual faculty is quickened to decided action.** A **deep** and **thorough** work is wrought in the soul, which the world can not see. *Those who know not* what it is to have an **experience** in the things of God, *who know not* what it is to be **justified by faith**, *who have not* the **witness** of the Spirit that they are accepted of Jesus Christ, **are in need of being born again.** ST, March 8, 1910 par. 13

? How will this transformation of our character make a difference in giving the Loud Cry?
"What can the world know of Christian experience? Verily, nothing!"

John 6:53 "Then _____ said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, _____ ye _____ the flesh of the Son of man, and _____ his blood, ye have no _____ in you.

John 6:56,57 "He that _____ my flesh, and _____ my blood, _____ in me, and I _____ him. As the living _____ hath sent me, and I _____ by the _____: so he that _____ me, even he shall _____."

"The great Teacher explained this instruction by saying,

"It is the _____ that quickeneth; the _____ profiteth _____: the _____ that I speak unto you, _____ are _____, and they are _____. **John 6:63**

"Those who not only hear but do the words of Christ, make **manifest** in their **character** the internal operations of the Holy Spirit. **The result is demonstrated in the outward conduct.**" ST, 3-8-10 par. 14

"It is the darkness of misapprehension of God that is enshrouding the world. Men are losing their knowledge of His character. It has been **misunderstood** and **misinterpreted.** **At this time a message from God is to be proclaimed,** a message **illuminating in its influence** and **saving in its power.** His **character** is to be made known. Into the darkness of the world is to be shed the **light** of His **glory**, the light of His **goodness, mercy, and truth.** COL 415.3

"Those who wait for the Bridegroom's coming are to say to the people, 'Behold your God.'

The **last** rays of merciful light,

the **last** message of mercy to be given to the world,

is a revelation of His character of love.

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The children of God are to manifest His glory.

In their own life and character they are to reveal

what the grace of God has done for them. COL 415.5

"The light of the Sun of Righteousness **is to shine forth in good works**

– in **words of truth** and **deeds of holiness.**" COL 416.1

15. What if you have given your life to Christ and then you sin, what should you do?

Go to Him with **repentance** and **confess** your sin. **Proverbs 28:13** "He that _____ his _____ shall not _____; but whoso _____ and _____ them shall have _____."

Go to Him and pray the prayer that David prayed after his great sin: **Psalms 51:10-12**

"Create in me a _____ heart, O God; and renew a _____ spirit within me. Cast me _____ away from thy _____; and take not thy _____ from me.

Restore unto me the _____ of thy salvation; and _____ me with thy free spirit."

Note: The prayer of **David** after his fall, illustrates the nature of **true sorrow for sin.**

His repentance was **sincere** and **deep.**

There was **no effort to palliate** [excuse] **his guilt;**

no desire to **escape** the judgment threatened, inspired his prayer.

David saw the **enormity** of his transgression;

he saw the **defilement** of his soul;

he **loathed** his sin.

It was not for pardon only that he prayed, but for purity of heart.

He longed for the joy of holiness – to be restored to harmony and communion with God. SC 24.3

"If **one who daily communes with God** errs from the path,

if he turns for a moment from looking steadfastly to Jesus,

it is not because he sins willfully;

for when he sees his mistake,

he fastens his eyes again upon Jesus;

and the fact that he has erred does not make him less dear to the heart of God.

When reproved for his mistake,

he learns a lesson from the words of his Saviour,

turns the mistake into a victory,

and takes heed that he be not again deceived." ST, March 8, 1910 par. 15

16. In order for us to be able to give this final message to the world we must be fully on

Christ's side of the Great Controversy. We must be fully committed to Him and His ways.

Matthew 6:24 "No man _____ serve _____ masters: for either he will _____ the one, and _____ the other; or else he will _____ to the one, and _____ the other.

Ye _____ serve _____ and _____."

1 John 2:15 "Love not the _____, neither the _____ that are in the _____. If

any man _____ the _____, the _____ of the Father is _____ in him."

The Christian **can not**

serve the world,

or **yield** to the claims of any power, relation, or society

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that will make him **deny** Christ,
dishonor God,
or **prove disloyal** to His holy law.

The Christian is to surrender himself **unreservedly** to God
as His purchased possession." ST, March 8, 1910 par. 16

17. Christ is depending upon His people to be witnesses of His power to transform their life. This is so necessary for the last revelation of His grace to the world.

Isaiah 43:10-12 Ye are my _____, saith the LORD, and my _____ whom I have _____: that ye may _____ and _____ me, and _____ that I am he: before me there was no _____ formed, neither shall there be after me. I, even I, am the _____; and beside me there is no _____. I have declared, and have _____, and I have _____, when there was _____ strange god among you: therefore _____ are my _____, saith the _____, that I am _____."

? How do we co-operate with Him in this work?

Colossians 3:1-3 If ye then be _____ with Christ, _____ those things which are _____, where _____ sitteth on the _____ hand of God. Set your _____ on things _____, not on things on the _____. For ye are _____, and your _____ is _____ with _____ in God."

Note: The life of the Christian is hid with Christ in God."

and God acknowledges those who are His, declaring, 'Ye are My witnesses.'

They testify that divine power is influencing their hearts and shaping their conduct.

Their works give evidence that the Spirit is moving upon the inward man,

so that those who are **associated** with them are **convinced that they are making Christ their pattern.**

Those who **truly** love God have the **internal** evidence that they are beloved of God.

They have **communion** with Christ, and their hearts are warmed with **fervent love** toward Him.

God claims them for Himself, and will impart to them special favors,

enabling them to be complete in Christ,

more than conquerors through Him who has loved them." ST, March 8, 1910 par. 17

18. What does the Holy Spirit do for us and in us to restore the image of God in us?

2 Corinthians 10:4,5 "(For the _____ of our warfare are not _____, but _____ through _____ to the pulling down of _____ holds;) Casting down _____, and every _____ thing that _____ itself against the _____ of God, and bringing into _____ every _____ to the _____ of Christ."

Note: "The Holy Spirit is an effective helper in restoring the image of God in the human soul. ...

It came into the **schools of the prophets,**

bringing even the **thoughts** into **harmony** with the will of God.

There was a **living connection** between heaven and these schools;

and the **joy** and **thanksgiving** of **loving hearts**

found expression in songs of praise in which angels joined." CT 67.3

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