

The Holy Spirit - Part 2

In my last newsletter, I spoke about how we need to honor and treat the Holy Spirit as God and not to grieve Him or shut Him out of our gatherings. The following are relevant scriptures the Lord has given me to remind us how much we need the manifest presence of the Holy Spirit among us.

In Ephesians 4:3 it says that "we are to endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Why do we still not have unity? Why are there divisions, strife, major rifts in the body of Messiah? The word says, "endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit" with a capital "S." Without the Holy Spirit there can never be genuine unity. The early believers were in one accord by the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1), not by doing programs together, nor were they merely in the same building singing the same songs. They had become one body, one heart, one voice, one passion, one fire which is an impossibility without Him. You cannot have that without the active presence of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say to you, Except a man be born out of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. John 3:5-6

We were born into sonship by the Spirit, capital "S." Sometimes I wonder if we have the right concept of being born out from (gk. ek) the Person of the Holy Spirit, not merely born of "a spirit," small "s." The Holy Spirit birthed us. As in a natural birth, so in our spiritual birth from above, we were born out from (ek) a Person, in this case, the Holy Spirit. It's an amazing thought and yet we don't give Him His rightful place and His complete honor. It's like not honoring your father or your mother. The Nicene creed refers to the Holy Spirit as the Lord and Giver of Life, the Creator Spirit, present before the creation of the universe and through His power everything was made in Jesus Christ, by God the Father.

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, as by the Spirit of the Lord. 2 Corinthians 3:18

The Holy Spirit conforms us to the image of Christ. We will not truly change to become like Yeshua unless we give place to the Third Person of the Godhead!

"Those who are led by the Spirit of God are the sons of God." Romans 8:14. Those who are led by the Holy Spirit are true sons. If we don't allow the Holy Spirit to lead us, if we are led by the flesh, or by another spirit, we cannot genuinely function as authentic sons. Only the Spirit of God can lead us into that genuine sonship which comes out of obedience to God's voice and His ways.

For you have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but you have received the Spirit of Adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him that we may be also glorified together. Romans 8:15-17

The Holy Spirit IS the Spirit of Adoption: gk: $\upsilon io\theta \varepsilon \sigma i\alpha$ /the placing as a son. He is the Person of the Godhead who places us as a son in the Kingdom, in the family, in the Son Himself, creating in us a genuine cry in our hearts, Abba, Father!

Likewise, the Spirit also helps our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And He that searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to God. Romans 8:26-27

We don't know how to pray but the Holy Spirit prays within us. Where are the groanings of the Holy Spirit? If we grieve, quench or resist the Holy Spirit, we're not going to have that intercession that connects us to God and causes us to cooperate and agree with the absolute will of God. We need the Holy Spirit.

Don't you know that you are the temple of God, and the Spirit of God dwells in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which you are. I Corinthians 3:16-17

God does not dwell in temples made of silver or gold by man's hands, but the Holy Spirit dwells in us, in flesh and blood. His presence makes us into a temple! Just as a man without the Holy Spirit is not a temple of God, so a building without the Holy Spirit is not a church. We must honor and guard the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst, even as we guard our own hearts.

Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 2 Corinthians 3:17

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. John 4:24

But the hour comes, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeks such to worship him. John 4:23

We are crying out for the Holy Spirit to bring revival again to Israel, Cyprus, Greece and to every nation. We can do absolutely nothing without the Holy Spirit! He must lead our worship. It is written, "The Lord is the Spirit" with a capital "S". And "those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." 2 Corinthians 3:17, John 4:24. Without the presence of the Holy Spirit, we can't fully please the Father who seeks true (gk. not concealing) worshippers who worship Him in Spirit and in truth. True worshipers keep nothing concealed from God. They are transparent and pure, radiating the glory of God.

Beloved, let us desire to be more sensitive to the presence of the Holy Spirit. Let us not grieve Him in His heart. We praise You, Holy Spirit. We praise You and adore You. You are precious to us, Lord. We don't want to grieve You the way the world grieves You. We don't want to resist You and quench You the way the world quenches You. We desire to receive and adore You as God Almighty.

Greta Mavro