

The 7 Spirits of God and the Lamb of God



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According to the Biblebook
the Revelation of st. John
verses 4:5 and 5:6

A study of the Greatness and Glory of God

By E. van den Worm

General note:

1. In principle the Bibletexts have been taken from the Authorized Version. One could, of course, when so desired, use any other Bible translation.
2. We have **frequently** added text between brackets in the Bible verses **to clarify the meaning of the Bible verses.**
3. In most cases where **he** or **him** is mentioned to point to **males** it also counts for **females.**
4. It is allowed to copy the study, on which way, when the source is mentioned.
5. If this study is a blessing for you, it's our wish that the message shall be passed on to others. We ask you in the first place to attend other people on our website. But you could also, as far as we are concerned, copy it (many times), and hand it out. A margin for profit is **not** allowed hereby. See note 4, above.

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I

Outline of the 7 Spirits of God

1. **The Spirit of God: The Spirit of judgment** (namely of light and thus insight) over sin (Isaiah 4:4). In the end-time (last days) **this Spirit** will come "over all flesh" (Acts 2:17). It is God's worldwide call to repentance/reformation.
2. **The Spirit of Divine mercy and supplication** (Zechariah 12:10) and of new birth of God (John 1:13; 3:5; Titus 3:5) to all who wholeheartedly repent.
3. The Spirit of His Son (the Comforter) to impart the works of the Lamb to all those that have completely surrendered themselves to Him (Galatians 4:6; John 14:15-17). The **Baptism in the Spirit and in Fire** (Matthew 3:11-12; Malachi 3:1-3).
4. **The Spirit of His Son to renewal** (Titus 3:5): The Spirit that allows us to share in His resurrection(life). The purpose of the outpouring of the Later Rain in the end-time (Joel 2:23): to rebirth and growth to (the full) stature of the Fruit of the Spirit in us (Galatians 5:22; 2 Peter 1:3-4).
5. The Spirit of His Son **to participation in His anointing** (on earth) (Isaiah 61:1-4). This in order to save (the people of) the world (1 Corinthians 12:4-7).
6. **The Spirit of His Son to sanctification** (of our personal life) and to Divine justice (1 Peter 1:3-4; 1 Peter 1:2; Joel 2:23).
7. **The Spirit of the Father** Who gives us Divine glory and perfection in Him (1 Peter 4:14; Ephesians 3:18-19; Isaiah 60:1-2; Matthew 13:43).

II

Introductory words to the 7 Spirits of God.

*"And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are **the seven Spirits of God**." (Revelation 4:5)*

*"And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are **the seven Spirits of God** sent forth into all the earth." (Revelation 5:6)*

*"And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, **proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb**." (Revelation 22:1)*

These texts tell us that the Holy Spirit goes out from God; from the Father as well as from the Son (the Lamb). It is this Spirit of the Son, as God's High Priest, that personally works out in the heart and the life of those that have turned to God (here on earth), and have surrendered themselves to Him in the confession of their sins, the work on earth - finished by the Lamb of God through His death and resurrection.

It is the Lamb of God, That sitting at God's right hand as God's High Priest, imparts step by step through His Spirit to those that have converted to God and to Jesus Christ, His salvation obtained by His death and resurrection; thus making such Christians partakers of His victory over (the power of) satan¹ and sin, and so enabling them to walk, live and work in this world as conquerors over (the power of) satan and sin.

This Holy Spirit, this Spirit of the Father and of the Lamb of God, has 7 revelation forms, in Scripture called the 7 Spirits of God (see Rev. 5:6); we shall first look at these briefly before going into His revelation forms in more detail. First, in His first revelation form, He tries to lead the sinner to true repentance; thereafter He will cleanse and sanctify him, after true surrender to Him, and then He will justify him.

1

The 1st revelation form of the Spirit of God: ***The Divine Caller to repentance in the desert of our heart and life.***

The first work, the first revelation form of the Spirit of God, also called the **Spirit of Judgment**, is His revealing Himself as **light** to the sinner.

¹ We write the word "satan" not with a capital, as it is not a name, but a word meaning opponent or adversary, accuser.

The Father sends out His Spirit Who through the spoken/preached Word of God, brings light to the consciences of the sinners, bringing on the one hand conviction of their sinful lives, and revelation of His offer of mercy, if they convert to Him; and on the other hand bringing them truly to God and enabling them to be delivered by God from their great and small sins and from the sinful state in which they live and work.

"And when he (i.e. the Holy Spirit) is come (as the first divine work), he will reprove the world (i.e. the world in the heart and thoughts of the sinner) of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." (John 16:8)

"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper; but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." (Proverbs 28:13)

"Happy is the man that feareth alway: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief." (Proverbs 28:14)

In the end-time, the time in which we now live, He (i.e. the Spirit of the Father) comes over all flesh to create a worldwide revival.

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams." (Acts 2:17)

In the last days He (the Son of God) shall also send His judgments out over the world and over the unrepentant/unconverted part of His Church, and this in ever increasing measure. We read about this in the Book of Revelation, and we see it happening in the world today.

"...for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness." (Isaiah 26:9b)

Those in the world and in the Church, that refuse to convert will than fall victim to God's judgments, but whosoever sincerely turns from his sinful life will find mercy with God and will be saved by Him.

"A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee (who art completely dead to sin)." (Psalm 91:7)

"There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh they dwelling." (Psalm 91:10)

2

The 2nd revelation form of the Spirit of God: The Spirit of Divine mercy and supplication.

God sends His **Spirit of mercy and supplication** to all sincere converts/Christians.

"And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications..." (Zechariah 12:10a)

He shall give to all who sincerely turn to Him (also the stubborn but sincere Jews who will repent at the last moment when He comes again) this working of His Spirit; all who have accepted His offer of deliverance and salvation through Jesus Christ, His Son, by acceptance of His Word and who in obedience and surrender to Him had themselves baptized (by immersion in water, which is a prayer/ token of desire to be completely cleansed from all sin); He then, through this Spirit of mercy, will enable them to be born again in Him.

The Father will then send to all these that are born again of Him, the Spirit of His Son, the Lord Jesus, which is also called the Comforter.

"And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father." (Galatians 4:6)

And this Spirit of His Son, the Lamb of God, will then share with these converted/Christian believers the works of the Lamb; **both His death and resurrection.**

3

The 3rd revelation form of the Spirit of God: To the sharing of the works of the Lamb of God.

What the Spirit of God will then do in our heart and life is delivering us from the power of sin through **baptism in His fire**, thus making us partakers of His death and resurrection. However, we have a free will, which God will never ignore; we have to be (freely) willing this to happen to us; and to this purpose we have to surrender to Him. Then our "crosslife" begins: the burning away through His power of our I-will, which, of course, is sinful; through the washing (and thus cleansing/purification) by His blood. This is His yoke He wants to put upon us (Matthew 11:29) and that we have to accept willingly.

In Matthew 3:11-12 John the Baptist says:

"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

In Isaiah 4:4 this Spirit is also called **the Spirit of judgment and purification** (namely in the King James Version and in the original Hebrew). When we are thus baptized in Him we speak in tongues. Again: we have to be willing to partake in this purification (the deliverance from **the power of sin**), otherwise it will not work.

"For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live." (Romans 8:13)

"Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." (2 Corinthians 7:1)

"...Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." (Zechariah 4:6b)

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord... (i.e. God wants to act in co-operation with us)" (Isaiah 1:18a)

4

The 4th revelation form of the Spirit of God: **The Spirit of the Divine (new) life.**

This is His revelation in us as "**the Spirit of life**" in order to impart to us the **Christ nature**. This Spirit, as the "Latter Rain" (type of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit), will pour Itself out over us and sees to it, that the **fruit of the Spirit** will be able to develop and ripen in us.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance (or self-control)..." (Galatians 5:22, 23a)

"... I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:10b)

This **new life** does not come all at once, but step by step.

"For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day." (2 Corinthians 4:16)

5

The 5th revelation form of the Spirit of God: **The Imparter of the anointing (or calling) on earth of Jesus Christ.**

The Spirit of God also calls His faithful disciples to share **His anointing** on earth: to the priesthood; to deliverance of (the people of) the world out of satan's claws; to the forming of the Kingdom of heaven upon earth; to the forming of **the Church** under His guidance and in His power, out of those who initially were lost in the world. Thus it is **His own anointing** (calling) on earth that He **shares** with us. We find this anointing (calling) of the Lord Jesus Christ in Isaiah 61 verses 1-3:

*"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 brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, **that He might be glorified.**"*

If we are willing to serve Him, when He calls, then He will pour out part of His anointing over and in us.

The anointing oil is a type of the Holy Spirit, Who will prepare (or equip) us for the ministry we are called to. He pours out **His Spirit of power and might and wisdom** in us. Power and might, **not to rule over people**, but to **destroy the powers of darkness** to the salvation of those, that live in the world and are under satan's curse; and His Spirit of wisdom is poured into us, that we, with patience and love, might lead people out of (the power of) sin, and make known to people **the knowledge of God's will** by enfolding Scripture in the true Godly meaning.

"Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you." (Luke 10:19)

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." (Ephesians 6:10-13)

He, the High Priest, also gives to His fellow workers, His priests on earth, **gifts of wisdom and knowledge**, of **signs and wonders** (and these are revelations of His Spirit too), and He leads His anointed in the ministry unto which He has called them. He also equips them **spiritually** for their task/ministry:

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." (Ephesians 2:10)

"That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power." (Ephesians 1:17-19)

However, we, as His fellow workers, must remember, that gifts and ministries of His Spirit **do not ensure our own salvation**, but only **the fruit of the Spirit** (in us) is, namely the delivered new man in Jesus Christ. Gifts and ministries are given for the purpose of saving **others**.

6

The 6th revelation form of the Spirit of God: **The Spirit of sanctification and Divine righteousness.**

For His faithful disciples He comes as **the Spirit of sanctification to righteousness**.

"Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you and peace, be multiplied." (1 Peter 1:2)

This sanctification **does not happen automatically**. Spiritually seen, we have to hunger and thirst for it.

*"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for **they shall be filled**." (Matthew 5:6)*

Such Christians will be allowed to enter **His heavenly holy place in the spirit**, already here on earth.

"Having therefore, brethren (and sisters), boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh (i.e. through His death); And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water." (Hebrews 10:19-22)

Thus, those that sincerely desire it will be led step by step (in and through the Spirit) to our **Heavenly Father** in His heavenly holy place by the Great High Priest of God, our Lord Jesus Christ Himself; and they will be able to introduce His chosen fellow workers, the believers who are entrusted to their care, into God's holy places, step by step, and through the wisdom, knowledge and power of the Holy Spirit.

7

The 7th revelation form of the Spirit of God: **The Spirit of perfect holiness and Divine glory and righteousness.**

When our sanctification has been finished, so that we live perfect lives here on earth, then the **Spirit of the Father** comes to make His abode within us and we are made **partakers of His glory and perfection**. This could and will happen **already in these last days on earth**.

*"...May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be **filled with all the fulness of God**." (Ephesians 3:18-19)*

*"Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and **his glory shall be seen upon thee**." (Isaiah 60:1-2)*

"And there appeared a great wonder in heaven (i.e. the kingdom of heaven, namely the Bride[church] here on earth); a woman (i.e. the wife of the Lamb) clothed with the sun (type of the Father), and the moon (type of the blood covenant of the Son) under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars (type of the Holy Spirit)." (Revelation 12:1)

"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." (1 Timothy 3:16)

*"According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue; Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be **partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." (2 Peter 1:3-4)*

III

The study of the seven Spirits of God.

1

The 1st revelation form of the Holy Spirit: The Spirit of Judgement and Light.

God's call to repentance and His offer of mercy through Jesus Christ grounded on the finished work on Calvary.

"Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." (John 8:12)

The first thing the Spirit of God wants to accomplish in us, based on the finished work on Calvary, is a **clear conscience**, which we will obtain **through confessing our sins and through sincerely turning to God**, in doing so forsaking sin and satan.

"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but who so confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy. Happy is the man that feareth (God) alway: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief." (Proverbs 28:13-14)

By pouring out **His Spirit and Light** over this world God will work this will to repent. The Light of God works in two ways:

1. By it He will reveal the sins we committed (of the present and the past), and our sinful mentality.
2. He reveals His offer of mercy on account of the finished work of the Lamb of God (His death on the cross on Calvary **and His resurrection**).

After having confessed his sins and sinful mentality to God, the sinner, in the power of the Most High which he is to pray for, has to be willing to walk on circumspectly in order to prevent backsliding.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse (i.e. deliver) us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

Verses on this judging light of God:

*"And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem: When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by **the spirit of judgement**, and by the spirit of burning." (Isaiah 4:3-4)*

*"Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, **(so) that he will not hear (you)**." (Isaiah 59:1-2)*

This is why Scripture in John 16:8 says:

*"**And when he** (i.e. the Holy Spirit) **is come** (as the first divine work), **he will reprove the world** (i.e. the world in the heart and thoughts of the sinner) **of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgement.**"*

In the end-time God's Spirit, namely His light, will be poured out over **all flesh** (people) to prick their consciences: that **the worldwide revival** comes.

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh..." (Acts 2:17a)

*"Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and **the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee**. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and **his glory** shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy **light**, and kings to the **brightness** of thy rising." (Isaiah 60:1-3)*

This is also a prophecy of the worldwide revival which will take place in the last days.

*"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come **to his temple**, even the messenger of the (blood-)covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' (these are people who whiten linen by bleaching it with) soap: And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi (type of the Lord's workers in the Church), and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering (type of the ministry of the Word) in righteousness. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the days of old, and as in former years." (Malachi 3:1-4)*

The first messenger who "shall prepare the way before Him" is the first revelation form of the Holy Spirit Who also manifested Himself in Elijah's ministry against apostate Israel, and in John the Baptist's ministry, but also in Jesus'

ministry before He gave Himself as the Lamb of God on Calvary. This Spirit further manifests Himself in all true servants of God who call (the people) to repentance.

The second messenger, "the Angel of the (blood-)covenant", is the Spirit of Jesus Christ, another revelation form of the Holy Spirit, Who manifests Himself in the life of the sinner when he has converted to God and has received divine mercy, thus being born again of God, so that the baptism by fire of the Holy Spirit can then take place to the purification (here: deliverance) of all sin and power of sin; if at least the convert/Christian has opened himself to this, because he has a free will and God will not torpedo this free will.

*"For thus saith the Lord of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts, **The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former**, saith the Lord of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of hosts." (Haggai 2:6-9)*

The "first house" in above text is the first Church (of the time of the apostles); and the "latter house" is the Church of the last days. And above "heavens" are not God's heaven (because it is without sin and does not need to be shaken), but it is the kingdom of heaven on earth, namely **the Church**. We can also see this, amongst others, in Matthew 25:1-13 where this heaven is called "**the kingdom of heaven** (i.e. the Church) is like ten virgins..."

Thus: the Church as well as the world will be moved, shaken, in the last days; they will fall under God's judgement. For this compare the Book of Revelation with its seal judgements, trumpet judgements and vial judgements. In the last days God will shake Church and world in order that the worldwide revival will be able to take place.

"For He shall fill the earth with the knowledge of the glory of YaHWeH (i.e. the Lord God) as the waters cover (the bottom of) the sea." (Habakuk 2:14, literally translated)

Then **the eternal Gospel** (see Revelation 14:6) shall fill **the whole world**.

This is the Gospel that, cleansed of all human and demonic input and explanation, will be proclaimed clearly to all the world. As a light it will proclaim to the world God's mercy and it will share this mercy with everybody; mercy that is released by the death (on the cross) on Calvary and by the resurrection of the Lamb of God (Hebrews 9:11-15; 10:14). And this shall take place everywhere people have sincerely returned to God and have surrendered (to Him) through confession of their sin.

The coming worldwide revival which will start in Rotterdam.

This worldwide revival in the last days will, in my opinion, start in The Netherlands (Rotterdam). To prove this, we shall first read Isaiah 8:19-22 and 9:1-2.

"And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead? To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. And they shall pass through it, hardly bestead and hungry: and it shall come to pass, that when they shall be hungry, they shall fret themselves, and curse their king and their God, and look upward. And they shall look unto the earth; and behold trouble and darkness, dimness of anguish; and they shall be driven to darkness. Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them the light shined"

This nation, when they will have a difficult time in the last days because of God's judgements, rather than turn to fortune tellers and magicians, should seek for answers in God's prophetic Word.

"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." (2 Peter 1:19-21)

In the above texts God's Word tells us that the tribe of Zebulun will have a very hard time in the last days, politically and economically. Looking around them they will see "**anxiety and darkness**". But in the last days He shall **glorify** the land of Zebulun and Naphtali and He will **shine His great light** there, as a result of which that nation, being thoroughly convicted of the sins in which they have fallen, as one man, like Nineveh (see Jonah chapter 3), will turn to God; so that this nation, on account of their conversion and faith in the finished work on Calvary (namely the death [on the cross] and the resurrection of Jesus Christ, God's precious Lamb), could be saved by God and then be used **to proclaim His salvation**; thus by the power of God they "will call the nations to the mountain of God's holiness" and the great revival of the end-time shall begin.

On the basis of God's prophecies we shall see that the tribe of Zebulun means: The Netherlands. Zebulun is one of the ten so-called "lost" tribes, who were absorbed in the nations of the world.

"Zebulun shall dwell at the haven of the sea; and he shall be for an haven of ships; and his border shall be unto Zidon." (Genesis 49:13)

Jacob prophesied thus in Genesis 49:13. In the last days Zebulun will be a **coastal land**, they will be a **large seaport** and will make a living of the **shipping industry**. We think of Rotterdam as a world harbour/seaport. And Moses prophesied of Zebulun:

*"...Rejoice, Zebulun, in thy **going out**; and, Issachar, in thy tents. They shall call the people unto the mountain; there they shall offer sacrifices of righteousness: for they shall suck of the abundance of the seas, and of treasures hid in the sand."* (Deuteronomy 33:18-19)

In the last days this tribe/nation shall thus live on **the shipping and fishing industry** and the exploitation of **gas**. On the basis of these prophecies it is not difficult to see in (the people of) the Netherlands (the descendants of) Zebulun.

We will also read Revelation 10 verses 1-3:

"And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth, And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices."

This "mighty angel" is the "Angel of the (Blood-)Covenant" which we also saw in Revelation 1:13-18 and Malachi 3:1. He stood with His right foot on the sea and with His left foot on the earth. Thus He stood **on the coast of a coastal land**; it is my strong conviction that this coastal land is The Netherlands (Rotterdam): in a natural as well as in a spiritual sense **the Gate to Europe!** It is here that the Lion of Judah roars His victory roar. It is here that His end-time victory (and thus the end-time revival) will begin.

Whenever this light of the Holy Ghost is ignored by the sinner, then the only remaining thing to follow is God Almighty's judgement.

"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." (Hebrews 10:31)

2

The 2nd revelation form of the Holy Spirit: The Spirit of Mercy and of Supplication.

Only the sincerely repentant Christian will be a partaker of the second and further revelation forms of the Holy Spirit.

*"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."* (Zechariah 12:10)

It is the Spirit of God That He will pour out over the people of Judah, which continue to reject, stubbornly and persistently, Jesus Messiah; yet they stay honest towards God, as a result of which, in the very last minute, they will convert to Yeshua ha Massiah when they see Him appear on the clouds of glory at His bodily (and thus visible) return to establish the Millennium on earth. It is the Spirit He also pours out over all who convert to Him and sincerely subject themselves to Him while confessing their sins. He is the **Spirit of supplication**, Who will plead the Father for mercy on our behalf.

"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." (Romans 8:26)

The Rebirth out of Word, water and Spirit.

Through this **Spirit of Divine mercy** we are born again of God.

*"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 every one that is **born of the Spirit**."* (John 3:8)

*"**Which were born**, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but **of God**."* (John 1:13)

This rebirth out of God is a significant/important **spiritual experience**. We then experience Him (i.e. the Holy Spirit) in the same way that we would feel a wind blowing. This takes place when we sincerely turn back to God, repenting of all our sins and of the sinful state we are in, and in total subjection to Him, through confession of sin, we accept His offer of mercy held out to us through the spoken Word. When this happens then our rebirth begins, which exists of three phases:

1. our rebirth out of **the Word**,
2. our rebirth out of **water (baptism by immersion)**,
3. our rebirth out of **God (the Spirit)**.

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever." (1 Peter 1:23)

*"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to **become** the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."* (John 1:12)

We then, as **the Seed of God**, are impregnated by the **Word**, even as a woman is impregnated by the seed of a man. This first phase of the rebirth we could liken to **the foetal state** of a baby in the mother's womb; this being his **incubation period**. The word of Scripture quoted above states that in that case we receive power (the right) to

become children of God, just as a baby in his foetal state receives power to be born indeed. This faith in Jesus Christ we receive from God (Ephesians 2:8) when we hear the spoken Word.

"...and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?" (Romans 10:14b)

The second phase of the rebirth we experience, when we are born again **out of water**, namely by consciously undergoing the baptism (by immersion) **after having confessed our sins, in total subjection to our heavenly Redeemer**, before God, the devil and people (fellow believers).

"The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 3:21)

The baptism (by immersion) is a **prayer/request to God from a clear conscience** (thus AFTER the confession of sins) **to be allowed to share in the dying of Jesus and in His resurrection**. Thus the baptism is **not** a real dying and resurrection with Jesus, but it is a prayer/supplication/request to God in order to be allowed to experience these spiritually. The actual sharing in the dying and resurrection of Jesus is imparted to the believer **by the Spirit of Jesus Christ as a daily progressing process**.

"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (John 3:3)

*"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." (John 3:5)*

The water is the water of the (water-)baptism. This birth of water is an act of a servant of God, in the Name of God and is, according to 1 Peter 3:21, **a sincere request (prayer)** of the believer to be allowed to share in His death and resurrection on Calvary, and is subsequently to be followed by the rebirth out of God's Spirit.

*"Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptised into Jesus Christ were baptised **into his death**? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life, For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection." (Romans 6:3-5)*

We are thus born again of the Word, of water and of God (i.e. of His Spirit), **otherwise we could not see nor enter the Kingdom of God**. It is only afterwards that we will experience the new life in the Kingdom of God. We then actually die to our sinful nature and will actually grow in the nature of Christ day-by-day, not all at once.

*"For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed **day by day**." (2 Corinthians 4:16)*

So, should we die before we have gone through all three phases of the rebirth, we cannot see nor enter the Kingdom of God. We then come **into Paradise or the Forecourt**, just like the so-called "good" murderer. For Jesus said to him: *"Verily, I say unto thee: Today shalt thou be with me in paradise"* (Luke 23:43). These people will have to go through their further spiritual development in the hereafter first, before being able to enter God's true heaven.

The so-called "deathbed converts" will experience the same thing. In connection to the Tabernacle such "foetal Christians" are also called **"Forecourt Christians"**. If, in this state, they remain faithful to Jesus, then the rebirth in God and the perfection will be accounted to them after their death.

When we are born again of God, with the help of the Spirit of mercy, then He will send us **the Spirit of His Son** to let us share in the finished work on Calvary (by which is meant our dying to the old, sinful life).

*"And because ye are (God's) sons (and thus born again of God), God hath sent forth **the Spirit of his Son** into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father." (Galatians 4:6)*

That is why it is written in John 6 verse 44:

"No one can come to Me (i.e. Jesus), except the Father which hath sent me draw him..."

The Spirit of God's Son is the same as "the Spirit of Jesus Christ" and "the Spirit of the Lamb of God", Who first of all **comforts** us with the biblical message that He finished everything on our behalf on Calvary.

*"But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained **eternal redemption** for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance." (Hebrews 9:11-15)*

*"For by one offering he hath **perfected for ever** them that are sanctified." (Hebrews 10:14)*

This Spirit of Jesus Christ then gives us **faith, soul-saving faith**, through His being our Redeemer and through His finished work on Calvary, as well as through the Word of God which brings us this message:

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." (Ephesians 2:8)

This Spirit of Jesus Christ, Who wants to share with us **the works of the Lamb, finished on Calvary** (namely forgiveness and deliverance of sin and His resurrection life), therefore also is called the "Comforter".

*"If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, **that he may abide with you for ever**; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you."* (John 14:15-17)

The Comforter also teaches us to keep Jesus' finished work on Calvary **continually** in our hearts as a firm promise of God, which Daniel calls the "daily sacrifice" (see Daniel 12:11).

*"Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest **in our mortal flesh**."* (2 Corinthians 4:10-11)

God further says in Exodus 34 verses 6-7:

"And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation."

Thus He is merciful and gracious, **if we turn to Him and remain faithful**.

*"The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which **taketh away** the sin of the world."* (John 1:29)

So He not only **forgives** our sins, but also **delivers us from the (power of) sin and the sinful nature we are in**. These divine words of forgiveness hold a perfect deliverance from sin, as in 1 Peter 2 verse 24:

*"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being **dead** to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."*

These promises of the Comforter speak of God's justification (of our heart and life) through **faith in our Redeemer**, and through **faith in His finished work on the cross of Calvary**, and through our **faith in His soul-saving Word**.

*"But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even **the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe**: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness, for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus."* (Romans 3:21-26)

The Lord God teaches us that this redemption worked by the Lamb, is **eternal** and **perfect/complete**; because of which, already here on earth, we could be fully delivered if we receive faith **from Him** in His sin offering and in His Word.

"...According to your faith be it unto you." (Matthew 9:29b)

"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." (Ephesians 5:25-27)

*"**Come now**, and let us reason **together**, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."* (Isaiah 1:18)

God's Word tells not only the sinner, but also the Christian, that there is **total victory over satan and sin** through faith in His shed blood.

"And they overcame him (i.e. satan) by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death." (Read: "until it [their life] has completely died through the working of our faith") (Revelation 12:11)

Moreover, the Comforter urges us to take up **our cross daily**, by which is meant **our voluntary participation in dying to our old, sinful nature, the same way Jesus gave His (earthly) life on Calvary's cross**:

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)

His yoke is **our** cross that He puts upon us. If we take up this "life of the cross" voluntarily we will lose our sinful nature and will become meek and lowly of heart like Jesus.

"And he said to them all, If any man will come after me,

- 1. let him deny himself,*
- 2. and take up his cross **daily**, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it. For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away?"* (Luke 9:23-25)

If the converted sinner/Christian, in faith, has subjected himself completely to his Redeemer, then the next (namely the third) revelation of the Spirit will come in his life; this is **the Spirit of purification**, which subject will be taught in the next lesson. However, in conclusion, the warning should be issued that this deliverance/redemption from the power of sin should **not be done in one's own strength**, but it should be worked solely in the power of the Holy Spirit of God; although, of course, we should cooperate in this process, wholeheartedly and in all sincerity.

*"Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, this is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, **not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit**, saith the Lord of hosts." (Zechariah 4:6)*

3

The 3rd revelation form of the Holy Spirit: **The Spirit of Fire, also "the baptism in fire".**

"For our God is a consuming fire." (Hebrews 12:29)

"Is not my word like as a fire? saith the Lord (i.e. YaHWeH)..." (Jeremiah 23:29)

Our God is a Fire, That consumes sin and That, by Its fiery being, punishes and condemns the sinner who stays in sin, but That purifies the repentant sinner from all his sins he confesses.

"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper; but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy. Happy is the man that feareth alway: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief." (Proverbs 28:13-14)

To Moses God appeared as a fire in a bramble bush.

"And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly." (Exodus 19:18)

"And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God." (Revelation 4:5)

His Shekinah light and glory (with this is meant the revelation of God's glory and presence) during the tabernacle period, also points to His fiery being. Shekinah is a term used by the Hebrews meaning: God's presence. On the first day of Pentecost He also revealed Himself as **"tongues of fire"**.

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." (Acts 2:1-4)

It is through this baptism in fire, that His Spirit allows the converts/Christians to share in **His dying on Calvary**, so that we, too, on the one hand are prepared to die to our old, sinful "I"-life; on the other hand He herewith reveals His presence to the believing convert.

*"I indeed baptise you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptise you with **the Holy Ghost**, and with **fire**: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." (Matthew 3:11-12)*

Of course, we have to be willing to undergo this baptism in fire, because we have a free will and God will not torpedo it. Thus His Spirit will burn to ashes the chaff of our life (i.e. our old, sinful, human nature). This baptism in fire, like the burnt offerings of the old covenant, is to be a voluntary action.

"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death." (Romans 8:2)

The "Spirit of Life" firstly reveals itself in our sinful life as the exterminator of the power of sin and death, the curse that is on fallen man, and delivers us thereof.

*"The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which **taketh away the sin of the world**." (John 1:29)*

Having come into our personal life the Lord not only forgives our sins (if we pray/ask Him for it), but He also removes the power of sin out of our life (if we sincerely long for it).

"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the (blood-)covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' (these are people who whiten linen by bleaching it with) soap: And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi (type of the Lord's workers in the Church), and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering (type of the ministry of the Word) in righteousness." (Malachi 3:1-3)

The Lord started in the Jewish country and will purify (i.e. deliver from sin) the whole world, namely all those who (sincerely) turn to Him, with His fire in order to lead them unto God's justice/righteousness.

"For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death; we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection." (Romans 6:5)

Through both works of redemption (thus death and resurrection) we are to grow into His death and His resurrection. This will happen **step by step**, and each step is a miracle of God's mercy. So, not everything happens all at once. This is why this revelation form of the Holy Spirit's is also called **the Spirit of Purification/Cauterisation**. For this purpose the Lamb of God came to earth, namely to deliver us out of Satan's power through His death and resurrection, in which we may share through our faith and our conversion to Him (see Isaiah 4:4).

"...For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil" (John 3:8b)

He shares His total victory over sin and death with us personally. Other Scripture verses that tell us of His delivering us of our sins are to be found in John 8:36; Ephesians 5:26-27; Romans 8:20-21:

*"If the Son therefore shall make you free (from sins), ye shall be **free indeed**." (John 8:36)*

*"That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be **holy and without blemish**." (Ephesians 5:26-27)*

"For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God." (Romans 8:20-21)

Only they who really desire (total) deliverance from sin through their faith in Jesus and through faith in His redeeming power, which He worked for us through the shedding of His blood, will be purified (i.e. delivered) from all their sins. All hypocritical believers shrink from this (divine) fire, this work of the cross.

"The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites. Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? Who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings? He that walketh righteously, and speaketh uprightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes, that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil; He shall dwell on high: his place of defence shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure. Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty: they shall behold the land that is very far off (namely God's heaven)." (Isaiah 33:14-17)

His Spirit will break down the old life (our sinful "I" nature) in us down **to the foundations** and we are to desire this, with Him.

"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 3:11)

Then the Lord, again in accordance with our faith in Him, will start the new Christ-life in us and will firstly begin to build the foundation of Christ in us, which is free from all (sinful) works of the "I" nature. This, too, He wants to work in us 100%, and we must be wanting this with Him.

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." (Matthew 5:6)

Thus we are justified by our faith in Him, by our faith in the shed blood (for the forgiveness of our sins) and by our faith in the spoken Word of the "way of the cross". We are not justified by doing our best or by complaining.

*"But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is **by faith of Jesus Christ** unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law." (Romans 3:21-28)*

Only the **completely cleansed/purified human nature** is allowed to enter God's heaven. If we are not yet perfected, but are pardoned through conversion to Him, then we are, after dying, first to stay in **Paradise** or the Heaven of the Forecourt, just like the "good" murderer (see Luke 23:43; John 3:5).

*"Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? **He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully**. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Selah. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates: even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? the Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory. Selah²." (Psalm 24:3-10)*

Thus, only they that

- are clean of hands, of walk, of all their doings/actions;
- are pure of heart;

² Selah means "rest/pause". Hereby is indicated that the psalm singer is to have a pause in his singing.

- are pure of soul (the will, thinking/thoughts and desiring);
- are pure of mouth (so those, that have no "evil tongue", nor are liars).

This is why the King of glory, the Lamb of God, is to be allowed entrance into the eternal gates of our body, our soul and our spirit (thus the **whole** person) in order to purify us (i.e. to make us free from sins), and to remake us.

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door (we are to open the door of our heart to Him ourselves), I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me (in other words: I will share with him the finished work of my death and resurrection)." (Revelation 3:20)

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way (to the Father and His heaven), the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father (and His heaven), but by me." (John 14:6)

"And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works (the sharing in His death and resurrection) unto the end (i.e. completely), to him will I give power over the nations (namely the heathen nations)." (Revelation 2:26)

The Lord will keep those in His perfect purity that are in continuous subjection to Him.

"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly (i.e. perfectly); and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body (thus the entire person) be preserved blameless unto the coming (literally: in the presence) of our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

We not only have to be willing to undergo this cauterisation (namely the purification [i.e. the deliverance from sin] and the washing in/cleansing through His blood), but we also have to cooperate with all that is within us.

"For if ye live after the flesh (i.e. the carnal, human nature), ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live." (Romans 8:13)

"Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: In the which (sins) ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off (discarded) the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all. Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness." (Colossians 3:5-14)

"And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses." (Mark 11:25-26)

*"Be ye not unequally yoked together (i.e. do not form an unequal relationship) with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth (in common) with an infidel (unbeliever)? And what agreement (what common foundation) hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell **in** them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." (2 Corinthians 6:14-18)*

*"Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse **ourselves** from all filthiness of the flesh (of the carnally minded person) and (of the sinful, human, and possibly demonically influenced) spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

As we are not capable to free ourselves of any unrighteousness, let us then hand this bondage (of sin) to Him. He is our Deliverer, Who can deliver us 100% from any bondage of sin.

We also, with all our heart, have to:

1. believe in **His power** to do this;

*"...**All power** is given unto me in heaven and in earth." (Matthew 28:18)*

2. believe in **total deliverance**, accomplished for us by His death and resurrection.

*"But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come (namely the spiritual goods the New Testament believer will receive), by a greater and more perfect tabernacle (namely the heavenly), not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building (i.e. Moses' earthly tabernacle); Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained **eternal redemption** for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the mediator of*

the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first (the old) testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance." (Hebrews 9:11-15)

*"For by one offering he hath **perfected for ever** them that are sanctified." (Hebrews 10:14)*

3. believe in the Word of the Cross:

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." (Romans 1:16)

4. we also have to keep in our hearts, as God's promise, the Word of the cross:

*"Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest **in our mortal flesh**." (2 Corinthians 4:10-11)*

In this way He will work His death and resurrection in our hearts and lives (see 2 Corinthians 4:16). We also have to pray for this baptism in fire:

"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him (for it)?" (Luke 11:13)

*"That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in **the inner man**." (Ephesians 3:16)*

For this same reason we are to willingly undergo the water baptism (of course by immersion), and do we share in the Supper, as both are a prayer/plea to be cleansed and to die to our old, sinful life. After all, we have to give Him full freedom to work this in our hearts and lives, until we are (completely) **dead** to (the power of) sin, and for us to be able to stay in this dead/sinless existence.

*"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being **dead** to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." (1 Peter 2:24)*

Then we, already here on earth, will live to the honor and glory of His unsurpassed Name.

*"Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he **cannot sin**, because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother (or sister)." (1 John 3:9-10)*

4

The 4th revelation form of the Holy Spirit: **The Spirit of the NEW Godly LIFE.**

From now on, after that the Spirit of the Lamb has delivered us from the power of sin through the baptism in His fire, He will lead us on **the Way of the NEW LIFE to the Father and to His glory.**

*"Jesus saith unto him (Thomas), I am the way, the truth, and the life: **no man** cometh unto the Father (and His heaven), but by me." (John 14:6)*

On this road of mercy/grace, we are to stay close to the Spirit of Jesus and to (continue to) walk circumspectly: confessing any form of sin, unto which satan tempted us, and might (possibly) still tempt us, unto Jesus and putting them at His feet, in order that we could stay in His peace. On this road of mercy/grace the Lord's Spirit helps us to grow into this NEW LIFE, he does not do everything all at once.

*"For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed **day by day**." (2 Corinthians 4:16)*

*"...**No man** cometh unto the Father (and His heaven), but by me." (John 14:6b)*

He wants to give us this NEW LIFE abundantly:

"But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by his grace we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life." (Titus 3:4-7)

"...I am come that they might have (eternal) life, and that they might have it (this life) more abundantly." (John 10:10b)

The divine spark of life that made us children of the heavenly Father, begins small and has to grow in us to full (spiritual) maturity. God's Word calls this divine/godly life, this Christian life, the fruit (namely the result) of the Holy Spirit.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance (or self-control)..." (Galatians 5:22-23)

Thus we put on the nature of Christ, driven by the powerful regeneration of the Spirit and the Word; the new man/person created in the likeness of God **in true righteousness and holiness**.

"That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind (i.e. in your thoughts); And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." (Ephesians 4:22-24)

"According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." (2 Peter 1:3-4)

"For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptised into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:26-28)

Thus, we become more and more partakers of the godly nature, we start to resemble Him. And God's love (Greek: agapè) grows within us (see Romans 5:5).

"Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you." (Hosea 10:12)

In the same way we put on His glory:

"Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty (from sin). 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 even as by the Spirit of the Lord." (2 Corinthians 3:17-18)

This spiritual growth is **not automatic**; we are to **(spiritually) hunger and thirst for it**.

*"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they **shall be filled**." (Matthew 5:6)*

On this road, we will (spiritually) enter His holy place, and we will come nearer and nearer **to our heavenly Father**, Who lives in heaven.

"Having therefore, brethren (and sisters), boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh (i.e. through His death); And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works." (Hebrews 10:19-24)

We will not go this road alone; He is our Great Guide and Shepherd.

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith..." (Hebrews 12:2a)

"I am the good Shepherd..." (John 10:11)

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake." (Psalm 23:1-3)

He is the **Great Keeper** of His children (sons and daughters):

"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly (i.e. perfectly); and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body (thus the entire person) be preserved blameless unto the coming (literally: in the presence) of our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

On this road of grace He is our Wonderful Counsel(or) and mighty God (see Isaiah 9:5), with Whom we are to be in a healthy and good relationship.

This God's road of grace we also find in the prophecy of Isaiah in Chapter 35 verses 1 through 10:

*"The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the Lord and the excellency of our God. Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense; he will come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes. **And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness**; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but **the redeemed shall walk there**: And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away."*

Some see in this, Isaiah's, prophecy Israel's return to Canaan, but the contents of it are too holy to refer to this profane (i.e. worldly) event, for many of the Israelite nation will return to Canaan **unconverted**. Thus the Church of Jesus Christ is formed out of this first sinful humanity, which is why Paul finishes in 1 Timothy 3:16 with a glorious climax of victory:

"And without controversy great is the mystery (first hidden, later [namely in the last days] revealed) of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified (viz. made righteous) in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory."

The seven steps a convert/Christian must take on the road, the holy road (Isaiah 35:8) of God's mercy/grace.

On this road we are **NOT** carried. This justification does **not** happen AUTOMATICALLY, but we must go this WAY OF THE CROSS VOLUNTARILY, although we will be **LED** by His Spirit (Romans 8:14).

- Step 1** We must
- BELIEVE in the FINISHED WORK (in His death and resurrection) for us;
 - BELIEVE that He (i.e. His Spirit) is ALMIGHTY to share His VICTORY with us;
 - BELIEVE in the spoken WORD of the cross (Romans 3:21-26).
- Step 2** We must **approach Him** with prayer (Matthew 11:28-30; Isaiah 1:18).
- Step 3** We must receive Him in our hearts and lives, so that He could work this FINISHED work in us through the washing in (and thus the cleansing by) His blood, by having ourselves baptised in **His Name** (Matthew 3:11-12; Revelation 3:20).
- Step 4** We must be willing to **DIE** to our old sinful nature (Luke 9:23-25; Malachi 3:1-3; 1 Peter 2:24).
- Step 5** Spiritually, we are to hunger and thirst for the NEW LIFE, for the nature of Christ, the Godly nature, He wants to give to us unto the FULNESS thereof (Matthew 5:6; Philippians 3:10-14; 2 Peter 1:3-4; Ephesians 4:13).
- Step 6** On this (holy) road we must follow Him OBEDIENTLY (John 3:36).
- Step 7** We are to separate ourselves from **sin and temptation** and walk (and act) circumspectly in this world (2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Luke 1:17).

5

The 5th revelation form of the Holy Spirit: The Spirit of Jesus Christ, Who calls us to the sharing in His anointing.

Sharing, through the Spirit, in **the earthly anointing of Jesus Christ**, to the building of the Church, the Body of Jesus Christ, out of the sinful world.

I

The calling, of the Lord, of the chosen among (Jesus') disciples.

The calling to stewardship of the Lamb, to the building of the Church, is a **selection/predestination**. The Lord calls **some** to this purpose. All disciples are called to be His **witnesses**, namely to proclaim the miracle the Lord has done in his life; some among these are called to share in **His earthly anointing**, to build the Church. **He calls whom He will**.

"And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him." (Mark 3:13)

We do have to be willing and prepared to **answer** this calling.

"And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace..." (Ephesians 6:15)

His servants are to serve Him voluntarily.

We might also desire to serve Him and even be willing to follow a theological education for this purpose. Yet the calling is a concern of **the Lord Jesus Himself** (in other words: that is His business).

"This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop (i.e. minister of the Church), he desireth a good work." (1 Timothy 3:1)

"And how shall they preach, except they be sent? ..." (Romans 10:15a)

If those, that are called by the Lord, are indeed willing to serve Him, after all such a life in truth always is a sacrifice, then He will prepare that life thereunto and **He will enable such a person/Christian** to fulfil that spiritual calling.

*"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, **which God hath before ordained** that we should walk in them." (Ephesians 2:10)*

II

The anointing of the chosen servants/stewards.

The Lord Jesus **shares His anointing** (as for His earthly calling) with these. He anoints them thereto and **baptises them in His Spirit** for a powerful ministry that will conquer the opposing powers of darkness. Let us first look at the anointing of Jesus Himself:

*"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; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, **that he might be glorified.**" (Isaiah 61:1-3)*

In verse 4 we see the working of the shared anointing in His servants:

"And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolation of many generations." (Isaiah 61:4)

Thus He shares with His labourers the same anointing, at least part of it, that the Father gave Him.

"Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you." (John 20:21)

III

He baptises such Christian labourers with His Spirit.

For this purpose He baptises them with the Spirit of God to confirm their testimony.

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

The Baptism in the Spirit also has other purposes:

- a) The baptism in/with the Holy Spirit is not only given to the believer in order to confirm him in his work for Christ, but is also **a sharing in the dying of the Lamb**, namely to the (complete) dying to the power of sin. John the Baptist says in Matthew 3 verses 11-12:

"I indeed baptise you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptise you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

*"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall **suddenly** come to his temple, even the messenger of the (blood)covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' (these are people who whiten linen by bleaching it with) soap: And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi (type of the Lord's workers in the Church), and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering (type of the ministry of the Word) in righteousness." (Malachi 3:1-3)*

- b) The baptism in/with the Spirit, namely the indwelling of the Spirit in the believer, also serves to strengthen the inner person and his personal warfare against satan and his powers; to **personal sanctification and perfecting** of the believer/Christian.

"That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man." (Ephesians 3:16)

IV

The gifts or the revelations of the indwelling Spirit.

Believers/Christians further receive **gifts (or revelations) of the indwelling Spirit** for the equipment of God's servant, in aid of the spiritual service:

"Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal (thereof)." (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

The **ministries** are another revelation form of the indwelling Spirit, but more on this subject later.

- 1) *"For to one is given by the Spirit **the word of wisdom...**" (1 Corinthians 12:8 a)*

The **"word of wisdom"** is a revelation of the indwelling "Spirit of Wisdom", with which the anointed servant of God is equipped. So Solomon received the gift/talent of wisdom.

"And thou shalt speak unto all that are wise hearted, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom..." (Exodus 28:3a)

- 2) "...to another **the word of knowledge** by the same Spirit." (1 Corinthians 12:8b)

*"That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; **that ye may know what is the hope of his calling**, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places."* (Ephesians 1:17-20)

Each child of God needs to know what "the hope" means, that God wants to work in us, and what "the riches" are He wants to give to us. This is why the ones bringing/explaining the Word, those God called to this work, must have this knowledge/understanding.

*"Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, And (he) said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem (type of the local congregation). And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with **power** from on high."* (Luke 24:45-49)

For this purpose the Spirit of Jesus Christ thus opens the understanding of the Christian.

- 3) He further fills His servants with **the Spirit of Truth** in order that they learn **the Word of Truth** purely/plainly.

"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free (from sins)." (John 8:31-32)

Only the Word of Truth delivers from sin.

"If the Son therefore shall make you free (from sins), ye shall be free indeed." (John 8:36)

*"If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even **the Spirit of truth**; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me. These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."* (John 14:15-26)

"Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness." (Ephesians 6:14)

1 Peter 1 verse 13 a explains which loins are meant here: *"Wherefore gird up the **loins of your mind**..."*. The inner man of our thinking in a servant of the Lord needs to be **renewed by the Word and by the Spirit of Truth**, that the heart of God's servant be filled with the righteousness of God.

- 4) The soul of the Word of Truth with which a servant of God must be equipped, and which he is to bring to the converts/Christians, is **the victory by the shed blood of the Lamb**, which is passed on to them by the preaching of **the Word of the cross**, namely the preaching that we who believe, also have to die to our old, sinful life.

"For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified." (1 Corinthians 2:2)

"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." (1 Corinthians 1:18)

"And they (the victors) overcame him (satan and power of sin) by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony (whereby also others will share this victory); and they loved not their (earthly, sinful) lives unto the death (until it is completely dead, already here on earth; so that they may live without spot or wrinkle, faultless; see Ephesians 5:27, already here on earth.)." (Revelation 12:11)

*"But Christ being come an high priest of good things (namely the spiritual things we know in the New Covenant) to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle (i.e. the heavenly tabernacle), not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building (i.e. the [earthly] tabernacle of Moses); neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained **eternal redemption** for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first (i.e. the Old) testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance."* (Hebrews 9:11-15)

The Salvation and Sanctification by the Word of the cross does not happen automatically.

The spoken Word of Truth does not automatically bring victory in the life of the convert/Christian; the justification through faith in Jesus Christ and His Word, does not have a one-sided effect. They will have to **cooperate with God**.

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord (i.e. God wants to act in co-operation with us): though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." (Isaiah 1:18)

- a) We are to **come to the Almighty and judge together with Him**; we must **obey Him**, and together with the Spirit of Jesus Christ **patiently follow the way of the cross**, namely the dying to the old, sinful person, up to the end.

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)

- b) The believer must also flee from sin:

"Be ye not unequally yoked together (i.e. do not form an unequal couple) with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." (2 Corinthians 6:14-18)

"Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh (namely the carnally minded person) and (the sinful, human [and possibly demon possessed]) spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." (2 Corinthians 7:1)

The Word of the cross brings complete deliverance from sin.

Then the Word of the cross, anointed by the Spirit of Christ, will make us white as snow, namely without spot and without wrinkle, faultless, and thus perfect.

*"That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be **holy and without blemish**."* (Ephesians 5:26-27)

The Word of Truth brings the believer perfection in the Christ nature.

The knowledge of God's Word of Truth will not only bring the believer deliverance from (the power of) sin, but also perfection in the Christ nature. It will make us saints:

*"That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be **filled with all the fullness of God**."* (Ephesians 3:17-19)

"To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily." (Colossians 1:27-29)

"And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him." (Colossians 3:10)

*"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 Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it." (1Thessalonians 5:23-24)*

- 5) Another gift of the Spirit is "the gift of **power and strength**" over all powers of darkness.

"Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you." (Luke 10:19)

"And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." (Mark 16:17-18)

Here the servant of God is equipped (i.e. clothed) with **the Spirit of Power and Strength** over all the powers and works of darkness, namely over demonic powers, as this Spirit will reveal itself and will work the gift through His servant. Note: the Lord never gives His servant power over people, over believers. Those that do this, misuse the position given to them by God, and are inclined towards sect forming.

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock." (1 Peter 5:2-3)

- 6) Yet another kind of gift are the **(diverse) gifts of healing**. When the Spirit of healing reveals Himself through His servant, then the sick are healed **supernaturally**.

"...to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit." (1 Corinthians 12:9b)

"...(And those that believe) shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." (Mark 16:18b)

"Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:14-16)

- 7) Yet another gift, or revelation, of the indwelling Spirit, is "**the gift of faith**", and another the "**working of signs**". If the indwelling Spirit reveals Himself in this way, then **supernatural miracles** will happen. All gifts are for the growth/increase of the faith of the disciples/followers of the Lord, and of others.
- 8) Still another gift of the Spirit is that of **prophecy**, while we also have the prophetic Word, namely prophecies spoken by earlier servants of the Lord, which have been recorded in the so-called canon of Scripture (i.e. the list of ecclesiastically recognised Bible books).

"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." (2 Peter 1:19-21)

- 9) Finally, we know the gifts of **the discerning of spirits**, of **tongues**, and of the **interpretation of tongues**. Discerning of spirits helps us to distinguish (i.e. recognise, know) whether a word or something or somebody is from God or not. The gift of tongues is also called "prayer language".

"For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries." (1 Corinthians 14:2)

Sometimes the Spirit speaks in tongues through His servant, and the servant himself does not understand what He speaks through him, but the listeners hear him speak in their own language. This miracle happened on the day of Pentecost at Jerusalem.

"And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galileans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God. And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this? Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine." (Acts 2:5-13)

Another possibility with the gift of tongues is, that the Spirit speaks in a strange, unknown language, and then has the language translated (possibly by another believer) in the believers' language. This is **the gift of interpretation of tongues and/or foreign languages**.

V

Ministries of the Lord.

The Spirit, besides through gifts, also reveals Himself through **the assignments of ministries**. Those chosen to fulfil a certain ministry in the congregation of saints are called, formed and anointed hereto by the Spirit. By means of these anointed helpers of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, God's people, the Church, is built on earth of them which He has drawn from among the sinners of this world.

There are five kinds of ministries/helpers of the Spirit of Jesus Christ here on earth, that will lead the Church (i.e. God's people), and in this way form God's witnesses in word and in deed. Helpers He also has called, anointed and prepared for their special task/ministry.

*"And he (i.e. Christ) gave some, apostles (1); and some, prophets (2); and some, evangelists (3); and some, pastors (4) and teachers (5); For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: **Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:** That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love." (Ephesians 4:11-16)*

In my opinion, in the last days a sixth group of helpers will be added, the **saviors**: those who will deliver the Body of Christ, the Church, from any form of power of the enemy, **namely of demonic torments**, and of any form of sinful dominion.

"And saviours (deliverers, namely God's anointed) shall come up on mount Zion to judge the mount of Esau (type of carnally minded Christians); and the kingdom shall be the Lord's (i.e. YaHWeh's)." (Obadiah 21)

VI

All the Lord's servants are only His instruments for the building of the Church.

All called and anointed servants of the Lord's are only **instruments** of the Holy Spirit. He is the Lord of all spiritual labour. In fact, they are only the chariots on which the divine Warrior, the Spirit of Jesus Christ, is riding, and they are used as such.

"Before I knew it, my soul put Me on the chariots of my willing people" (Song of Solomon 6:12, literal Hebrew text).

"And take... the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God." (Ephesians 6:17, in part)

The Word of Truth is a sword in the hand of the Spirit of God, in order that He, working through the preacher, might bring peace to the hearts of the listeners; therefore, God's servant is also called a peacemaker.

"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." (Matthew 5:9)

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!" (Isaiah 52:7)

"...Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." (Zechariah 4:6b)

"So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, we are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do." (Luke 17:10)

"For we are labourers together with God; ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." (1 Corinthians 3:9-15)

*"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for **without me ye can do nothing**." (John 15:5)*

"Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain. It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep." (Psalm 127:1-2)

The Spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ is not only our Leader/Guide/Shepherd as far as our sanctification be concerned, but He is, as we have read in above text, also **the Builder of the Church**.

"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matthew 16:18)

VII

The servant of the Lord must be alert to the enemy.

Because the servant of the Lord places himself as a potential enemy against satan, he must always be **watchful** not to fall into temptation of any kind: money (the idol Mammon), sex (the idol Venus, Aphrodite) or power (the idol Baal).

"Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?" (2 Corinthians 13:5)

"Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired; Before the decree bring forth, before the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the Lord come upon you, before the day of the Lord's anger come upon you. Seek ye the Lord, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgement; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the Lord's anger." (Zephaniah 2:1-3)

VIII

Because of satan's influence God's servant may sometimes be rejected.

Whenever a servant of God is not accepted by his environment in his calling/ministry, then he cannot be a blessing to that environment.

"He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward..." (Matthew 10:41a)

In other words, whenever one does not accept a prophet in his function, one will not receive the blessing of that prophet either.

"But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house. And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them." (Mark 6:4-5)

"For Jesus Himself testified, that a prophet hath no honour in his own country." (John 4:44)

On the other hand the Lord warns:

"...Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm." (Psalm 105:15)

IX

Summary of the fifth revelation form of the Holy Spirit of God.

- 1) Every servant of God must be called by the Holy Spirit. He calls whom He wills.
- 2) The servant must be prepared to accept this calling.
- 3) Then He will anoint (confirm) His servant to this calling. He will be prepared / equipped for this spiritual work by the Lord Himself.
- 4) The Spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ shares with this servant the same earthly ministry (anointing) the Father gave Him.
- 5) He baptises His chosen servant in the Holy Spirit in order that he might be able to fulfil this ministry.

The baptism in the Holy Spirit serves:

- a) to the personal sanctification of the convert/Christian;
 - b) to strengthen the convert/Christian, and especially the servant of God – because he, by accepting God's calling, has become a potential enemy of satan – against the daily temptations, trials and other (carnal and/or spiritual) attacks of the enemy;
 - c) to spiritually equip him so that he could fulfil his spiritual work;
 - d) to clothe him (inwardly as well as outwardly) with the full nature of Christ (Ephesians 4:13).
- 6) He equips His servant with the gifts (revelations) of the indwelling Spirit. He also calls His servant to certain ministries (parts of the anointing of the Lord Himself) to a specific task/labour.
 - 7) He equips His servant with the Spirit of Wisdom.
 - 8) He equips His servant with the Spirit of Knowledge (knowledge of God's desire to save; promises; knowledge of the Word of Truth):
 - a) The Word of Truth sets free, renews and perfects the faithful convert/Christian;
 - b) The soul of the Word of Truth is the Word of the Cross (and the effect thereof in our own life), the victory one receives through faith in the shed blood of the Lamb of God;
 - c) The Word of God does not work automatically!
 - 1 The convert/Christian is to come and surrender to Jesus;
 - 2 He must be willing to share the cross (namely the purification [i.e. deliverance from sin] in the Fire of the Spirit, and the washing in [and thus cleansing by] the Blood of the Lamb);
 - 3 He must be willing to flee from sin (and to be willing to be completely freed from the power of sin; to die to it).

Then the Word of Truth will forgive, deliver, sanctify, make perfect the faithful convert / Christian, and wash (make) him whiter than snow.

- 9) He equips His servant with the Spirit of (Divine) Power over all (demonic) powers of satan.
- 10) He equips His servant with other gifts: the so-called "End-time ministries".
- 11) All labour must be performed by the Holy Spirit. His servants are only His instruments (fellow-workers). He is the (Builder) Lord of the Church.
- 12) A servant of God must constantly be watchful against the temptations and attacks of the enemy.
- 13) Whenever a servant of God is not accepted in his calling, then he cannot be a blessing to others.

X

The end-time anointing.

In the end-time a very heavy anointing will rest on God's chosen who will celebrate the wedding with the Lamb; Who, although invisible, will be perceived in their midst in and through the Holy Spirit. Spiritually this will be a glorious time, because the Holy Spirit will not come over the world sparingly, but will be **poured out** over all flesh! This means, that a great light will come into the world, as a result of which all people shall be convicted of their sins, and many will repent; this will bring about a world-wide revival; others, however, will harden their hearts and will be hostile towards the righteous and wise part of the Church.

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh..." (Acts 2:17a)

At present the Body of Christ is not healthy. In Matthew 25:1-11 we read that the Church, represented by the ten virgins, is asleep spiritually. Before the Bridegroom, invisible through the Holy Spirit, comes, they first must all be woken up in order to be renewed, cleansed and sanctified by the returned Lord.

"For thus saith the Lord of hosts, Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts, The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of hosts." (Haggai 2:6-9)

The heavens (the kingdom of heaven on earth, namely the Church) and the earth (the world) will be judged with the violent judgements of God and the sharp Word of God. Then God's glory and His victory will break through in the Church. And this glory of God will be revealed on earth to an even more excellent degree than in the first period of the Church.

"Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Ephesians 5:14-20)

Then the, through the Holy Spirit invisibly, returned Angel of the (Blood)Covenant (Malachi 3:1) will take the leadership of the seven Churches of the end-time in His own hand (Revelation 1:16; Ephesians 1:9-10) in order to lead the wise among them into the victory He worked on Calvary almost 2000 years ago now. A victory over their **personal** sins and death (namely death/the dying to sin) that He must give them **personally** when they will have repented and accepted Him personally as their Saviour.

"Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God (i.e. YaHWeH):for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month (as in the time of the apostles). And the floors shall be full of wheat (type of our heart and life that are abundantly blessed by God's redeeming Word), and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil (type of the great outpouring of the Holy Spirit).And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you. And ye shall eat in plenty (spiritual food), and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed. And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel (i.e. God's people, His Church), and that I am the Lord your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed." (Joel 2:23-27)

The Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Jesus Christ, will come down with great power in the Church as in the beginning, in the apostolic period. This event Scripture also calls the Wedding of the Lamb, which will thus take place on earth. This is also called the Later Rain Outpouring, of which we have already received the first drops.

*"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall **suddenly** come to his temple, even the messenger of the (blood-)covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' (these are people who whiten linen by bleaching it with) soap: And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi (type of the Lord's workers in the Church), and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering (type of the ministry of the Word) in righteousness." (Malachi 3:1-3)*

He shall give His finished, eternal Redemption to all the wise among His children, who accept Him as a Goldsmith to purify (i.e. deliver from sins) their person/being (Hebrews 9:11-12). Then the Church, namely the wise among them who share in His victory, will be made **spotless and without a wrinkle** (Ephesians 5:26-27), and the Wedding of the Lamb can then take place. The Wedding, or union, with the Bridegroom (the Head) shall glorify the Bride (His spiritual Body) (Revelation 12:1).

After the Wedding-feast, which will be glorious, as we read in Joel 2:23-27, He will call His faithful to the labour in Him, namely to restore the Church which is in a bad spiritual state.

*"Let your loins be girded about (namely with the truth of God's Word and with the Spirit of Truth; see Ephesians 6:14 a), and your lights burning (i.e. be [spiritually] alert/awake); And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will **return from the wedding**; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if he shall come in thesecond (night-)watch, or come in the third (night)watch, and find them so (awake), blessed are those servants." (Luke 12:35-38)*

We learn from these verses that the Wedding of the Lamb will take place **here on earth**, for He returns to His watchful servants after the Wedding-feast, and makes them to sit down with Him, and He will serve them during the meal. The spiritual meaning of this we learn in John 4:31-34. Moreover, in heaven there is no "nightwatch". One keeps watch at night against **enemies**, thus here on earth.

"In the mean while his disciples prayed him, saying, Master, eat. But he said unto them, I have meat to eat that ye know not of. Therefore said the disciples one to another, Hath any man brought him ought to eat? Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work." (John 4:31-34)

In other words: When He has returned from the Wedding, He will **personally give His servants His commands for the spiritual labour**. Only then, using His Bride as His earthly instrument, He will start the war/battle against satan and sin in the Church (Revelation 12:7-11).

Through His great light (and thus insight) of Word and Spirit in the Church the sevenheaded dragon of sin (Revelation 12:3) in the Church will be revealed (Matthew 10:26), and can then be fought and defeated by His Word and Spirit. This battle/war in the Church will create a rift between the wise, who accept the godly chastisement of the Lord, and the foolish who reject it and will be itchy of hearing, and will separate themselves (Matthew 13:30; 47-50; 22:11-14; Isaiah 33:14-17), and will search for other gentle healers.

After the spiritual restoration of the Church the, by the Spirit (thus invisibly), returned Lord and Angel of the (Blood)-Covenant will lead **the worldwide revival**.

*"And it shall come to pass **afterward** (after the spiritual restoration of the Church), that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids (literally slaves [male and female]: these are, spiritually seen, the least in the Church) in those days will I pour out my spirit. And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call."* (Joel 2:28-32)

The words: **that He shall pour out His Spirit over all flesh**, tell us that the Light of Word and Spirit will shine in the whole world, and will cause a **worldwide revival**. Another Scripture text also prophesies this:

*"And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest (of souls) of the earth is ripe. And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and **the earth was reaped.**"* (Revelation 14:14-16)

This worldwide revival will take place **simultaneously with the return of all Israel to Canaan, during the first half of the last yearweek of Daniel 9:27** (see also Ezekiel 39:25-29; 37:1-14: the dry bones come alive), thus a 3.5-year period. Then many of the ten tribes of Israel, assumed lost, will **return as Christians**, as "believers that profess the Messiah", to the Middle East that has been set free for Israel; and from Jerusalem great revival (outreach) services will be held. The next verses speak of a revival in Israel in the last days:

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths; for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem." (Isaiah 2:2-3)

Also:

"And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." (Isaiah 60:3)

This text tells us that God's servants will have a glorious, godly radiance, and charisma, that will attract even kings.

"In that day shall the branch of the Lord be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel. And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem: When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgement, and by the spirit of burning." (Isaiah 4:2-4)

Then the converted part of Israel will be a jewel and a glory, a holy people of God, and they will be the envy of the still unconverted part. Alleluia!!

"And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, there shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob." (Romans 11:26)

6

The 6th revelation form of the Holy Spirit: The Spirit of absolute sanctification and justification (to perfection).

The sanctification and perfection in Christ.

Now that the old, sinful person is dead (1 Peter 2:24), the Spirit of Jesus Christ can sanctify and justify us completely. Romans 1 verses 1b-4a:

*"...the gospel of God... of his Son... and declared to be the Son of God with power, according to **the spirit of holiness...**"*

"Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied." (1 Peter 1:1-2)

"But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption." (1 Corinthians 1:30)

"Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church: Whereof I am made a minister according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily." (Colossians 1:24-29)

God's people need to KNOW which promises of perfection and glory God has given.

God's Gospel needs to disclose to His children what riches of glory lie in store for the person that is snatched/freed from sin, namely **the perfection in Christ**. We could only reach this spiritual state when God's Word has renewed our thinking to that of Christ. Thus we have to know whether this is so.

*"For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have **the mind of Christ**." (1 Corinthians 2:16)*

*"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the **renewing of your mind**, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." (Romans 12:2)*

Jesus not only wants to give us godly life, but He wants to give this life in abundance (see John 10:10).

"Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God (i.e. YaHWeH): for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month (as in the time of the apostles). And the floors shall be full of wheat (type of our heart and life that is blessed abundantly by God's redeeming Word), and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil (type of the great outpouring of the Holy Ghost). And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you. And ye shall eat (spiritual food) in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed. And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel (i.e. His people, His Church), and that I am the Lord your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed." (Joel 2:23-27)

The Lord not only wants to renew our thinking/mind, but He also wants to give us faith in His promises of perfection.

*"Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints, Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, **And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power**, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church." (Ephesians 1:15-22)*

We must BELIEVE in these Godly promises.

The Word tells us that it (things) will be done to us according to **our faith** (see Matthew 9:29). We are justified by faith (see Romans 3:22). Thus we have to believe that this is indeed so.

In above Bible text we read that we will receive the excellent greatness of His renewing powers if we believe in the promises in His Word (verse 19). In the end-time He will give His beloved ones faith in this godly gift of mercy (in this godly present) by sealing their foreheads (i.e. their thoughts/mind), so that they will believe in His Word unconditionally, and so that God can lead them into His perfection and glory.

"And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads." (Revelation 7:2-3)

Our renewal through the Spirit unto the perfection.

He does not give us these riches and God-given salvation, because we are doing our best, but through the renewing work of the Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ; making us partakers in the rebirth of God and further renewal, which He wants to give to us abundantly, in this way giving us the inheritance in God. Thus this absolute sanctification/perfection is to be achieved through the working of the Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ.

"...Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." (Zechariah 4:6b)

"But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life." (Titus 3:4-7)

We find in Romans 8 verse 17 what our godly inheritance is:

*"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."*

As God said to Abram: "Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward" (Genesis 15:1). Thus, with Abram, we inherit God (i.e. we will receive the qualities of God through inheritance), and with God also the anointing (calling) of Jesus Christ, namely His earthly and heavenly calling.

Christ (Greek: Christos; Hebrew: Messiah) means the Anointed One, thus the anointing in us is the godly instrument to priesthood here on earth and to kingship in the eternity of the future (first in the Millennium and after that in the new heaven and on the new earth).

"I make all things new", says God in Revelation 21:5. This new nature we will receive as resurrected children is the Godly Nature.

"According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." (2 Peter 1:3-4)

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." (1 John 3:2-3)

It is the Spirit of Jesus Christ, That will bring to maturity the fruit of the NEW LIFE in us, and That will let it ripen.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance (or self-control)..." (Galatians 5:22-23a)

We have then received the nature of Christ, the nature of the Anointed One.

"But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof." (Romans 13:14)

"That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." (Ephesians 4:22-24)

"Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." (Ephesians 4:13)

*"That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be **filled with all the fullness of God.**" (Ephesians 3:17-19)*

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." (1 Peter 1:3-5)

*"Therefore **if any man be in Christ**, 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 Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation." (2 Corinthians 5:17-18)*

In above text is written: "...if any man be IN Christ...". So this is **not** the person who **(only) believes** in Christ, but it is the one who is **(immersed) in the nature of Christ**; he is a really a new creature. In Matthew 5:48 the Lord Jesus advises us: "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." This renewal includes our whole being: our spirit, soul and body.

*"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 Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it." (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)*

In verse 23: "...the coming of..." in Greek is the word: "parousiai". This word could also be translated with "**presence**", which in my opinion is the right translation for above text, because the Lord has to protect us against satan's tricks/wiles in this present time.

He wants to sanctify (renew) and save body, soul and spirit - the whole person. The renewal/change in our body will take place at the resurrection of the dead (see 1 Corinthians 15:51-52), just before His (visible) return on the clouds in order to establish the Millennium here on earth. Then this resurrected and changed body will reveal the glory of Christ.

We shall also receive the glory of God.

"When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day." (2 Thessalonians 1:10)

"Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear." (Matthew 13:43)

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God." (Romans 8:18-19)

"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified." (Romans 8:29-30)

"And she (i.e. the Bride of the Lamb) had the glory of God..." (Revelation 21:11)

In the last days the glory of God will be revealed in His Bride.

At the resurrection of the body this renewal/change includes a glorified radiance, but in the end-time this NEW (Godly/Divine) LIFE will also be revealed in and through us.

*"Arise (from the spiritual sleep [of sin], in the power of the Lord), shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and **his glory shall be seen upon thee.**" (Isaiah 60:1-2)*

"And there appeared a great wonder in heaven (i.e. the kingdom of heaven, namely the Bride-[church] here on earth); a woman (i.e. the wife of the Lamb) clothed with the sun (type of the Father), and the moon (type of the blood covenant of the Son) under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars (type of the Holy Spirit)." (Revelation 12:1)

Here we see the Bride of the Lamb glorified in the Kingdom of heaven on earth, namely in the Church. In the last days the Lord will restore His Church collectively. On Patmos John (in the Spirit) namely saw the Lord Jesus Christ come to His seven end-time churches as the High Priest of God, and personally take the management of these Churches in hand.

"And he had in his right hand seven stars (angels, namely the leaders of the seven churches of the last days - see Revelation 1:20): and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength." (Revelation 1:16)

"Having made known to us the mystery of His will, to His pleasure, which He had determined in Himself. In order to join together in the fullness of time (i.e. in the last days) the management of all things under one Head, in Christ, both what is in heaven (namely the kingdom of heaven on earth, the Church), and what is on earth (i.e. the world)." (Ephesians 1:9-10, literal translation)

Through His Holy Spirit He will then **come INvisibly in our midst.**

"And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel (i.e. My people, My Church), and that I am the Lord your God (i.e. YaHWeH), and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed." (Joel 2:27)

Then He will lead many out of the seven (end-time) churches to His victory and will work the great worldwide revival through His faithful servants.

These sanctifying and perfecting powers of the Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ do not develop automatically in the Christian. We must co-operate.

- 1) *"Come now, and*
- 2) *let us reason together, saith the Lord (i.e. God wants to act in co-operation with us);*
- 3) *though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." (Isaiah 1:18)*

"Be ye not unequally yoked together (i.e. do not form an unequal partnership) with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness, and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth (in common) with an infidel? And what agreement (common basis) hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." (2 Corinthians 6:14-18)

*"Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse **ourselves** from all filthiness of the flesh (namely the carnally minded person) and (the sinful human [and often satanically influenced]) spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

"For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye **through the Spirit** do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live." (Romans 8:13)

"Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off (laid off) the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all. Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." (Colossians 3:5-17)

Spiritually seen, we also must hunger and thirst for His righteousness, for His perfectness.

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." (Matthew 5:6)

"That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the (spiritually) dead." (Philippians 3:10-11)

"My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God? My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, where is thy God;" (Psalm 42:2-3)

"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: Looking diligently lest any man fail (weaken, fall short) of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled (or contaminated)." (Hebrews 12:14-15)

So we must hunger and thirst, namely have a strong desire, for all this. Further, we must obey the Spirit, our Guide.

"Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name is in him. But if thou shalt indeed obey (diligently) his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries." (Exodus 23:20-22)

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." (Romans 8:14)

"If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." (Galatians 5:25)

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin." (Hebrews 12:1-4)

So the love of God, the bond of perfectness, grows in our being **to eternal fullness**.

"Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not, charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away." (1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

"Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church: Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God, which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily." (Colossians 1:24-29)

Summary:

1. We have to **know**, that God wants to perfect us, namely make us completely holy.
2. We must **cooperate** in this sanctification/perfecting.
3. We must **believe** that it is so.

4. We must **hunger and thirst**, namely strongly desire this.
5. On the Way of sanctification we must **obey** the Spirit.
6. We must **expect** this absolute sanctification and perfecting **from the Holy Spirit** only.

7

The 7th revelation form of the Holy Spirit: **The Spirit of Perfection and Godly/Divine glory.**

The end-time glory of the Bride of the Lamb.

In the last days this Spirit (of perfection and Divine glory) will be poured out over that part of the Church that has been prepared for it. In the first place the 144,000 labourers of the Lord that He obtained out of the twelve tribes of Israel, except for the tribe of Dan. In this tribe the Lord God could not select anyone for this end-time function and state, because not one of the members of this tribe would have been willing to go the whole way of the cross, complete purification (namely complete deliverance from sin) in and through the Holy Spirit's Fire.

*"And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. **And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.** Of the tribe of Juda were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Reuben were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Gad were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Aser were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Nephthalim were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Manasses were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Levi were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Issachar were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Zebulun were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Joseph were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Benjamin were sealed twelve thousand."* (Revelation 7:1-8)

In Revelation 14 we read more on this group of firstborn of the Lamb.

*"And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him **an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.** And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. **These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.** And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God"* (Revelation 14:1-5)

But also the Bride of the Lamb herself knows this complete purification (namely the deliverance from sin), and the growth in the nature of Christ, although as for the latter, not in the perfection of the 144,000. After all, she must still be spiritually fed (Revelation 12:6). However, she has been completely cleansed from all (the power of) sin, and is thus, spiritually seen, without spot or wrinkle, made holy and faultless through participation in the washing in (and thus the cleansing by) the Blood of the Lamb.

From the Bride come (spiritually speaking) the 144,000, after that they, through the power of the Holy Spirit were (in a positive sense) separated from the spiritual body of the Bride (who, after her spiritual marriage, now is the Wife of the Lamb); and after she (in the spirit) had intercourse with the returned Bridegroom.

"That he might sanctify and cleanse it (the Church) with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." (Ephesians 5:26-27)

We see the glory of the Bride in Revelation 12 verse 1:

"And there appeared a great wonder in heaven (i.e. the kingdom of heaven on earth, namely the Bride[church]); a woman (i.e. the wife of the Lamb) clothed with the sun (type of the Father), and the moon (type of the blood covenant of the Son) under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars (type of the Holy Spirit)."

In the last days this sign will be seen in heaven, namely **in the kingdom of heaven on earth**, thus in **the Church**, where the sin dragon (verse 3) will be revealed, because of the charismatic light of the Spirit in the Church. This chosen part of the Church will then be clothed with the threefold glory of the almighty God: of the Father (sun), of the Son (moon), His blood covenant, and of the Holy Spirit (the crown of twelve stars).

The Lord God obtained this Bride of the Lamb out of all peoples, nations, and tongues, which we can also read in Luke 14:21-24; but, in my opinion, especially out of the (offspring of the) twelve tribes of Israel (Hosea 3:4-5).

Other Scripture statements on this Divine glory we find in 1 Peter 1:3-5.

This incorruptable inheritance will be revealed in the end-time, namely in and through the Marriage of the Lamb, the great union with the almighty Spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ (the so-called "Later Rain" or "**outpouring** of the Holy Spirit").

*"If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for **the spirit of glory** and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified."* (1 Peter 4:14)

The Spirit of Glory, the Spirit of God, will then rest on such persons.

*"According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: That by these ye might be **partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."* (2 Peter 1:3-4)

God promises to give us the divine (i.e. His) nature, after we are delivered from our natural, sinful nature through our sharing in the finished work of the Lamb of God (which means for us personally: dying to the old, sinful, worldly minded life).

*"That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height, And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be **filled with all the fullness of God.**"* (Ephesians 3:16-19)

Then the love of God is poured out in our hearts, in all four divine dimensions (namely in its breadth, its length, its depth and its height), and **the fullness of God lives IN us.**

"And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me." (John 17:22-23)

Jesus wants to give us the glory He Himself received from the Father, through perfect unity with the Son and the Father, in the Spirit. Then the part of the Church that was thus formed will be a firm/strong unity.

"Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear." (Matthew 13:43)

In eternity the righteous shall shine as the sun!

*"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 8:17)

*"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate **to be conformed to the image of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called; and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified."* (Romans 8:29-30)

If we really (and sincerely) are God's children, **we will inherit God** (i.e. own Him, namely the properties of God [to be received through inheritance]); but God must **also own us** (completely) (i.e. be allowed to take possession completely), so that He could make us members of the Body of Christ, of the Messiah; He will then, in the real sense of the word, make us equal to the Image of the Son of God, so that Jesus, the Son, will become **the Firstborn** (1 Corinthians 15:20) among many brothers (James 1:18 b; Revelation 14:4 b), and thus **no** longer be the **only** Son of God (although we people, male and female, will never be Sons with a capital, but sons, and will only carry out, as His Body, whatever He, as our Head, commands us).

*"For by one Spirit are we all baptised into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to **drink** into one Spirit."* (1 Corinthians 12:13)

He wants to immerse us completely, thus 100%, in the Holy Spirit: body, soul and spirit, which we also read in Ezekiel 47:1-5.

"Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 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 even as by the Spirit of the Lord." (2 Corinthians 3:17-18)

We will be changed in appearance into the Image of the Lord God almighty, not all at once, but from day to day to day (Sse 2 Corinthians 4:16).

*"For I, saith the Lord (i.e. YaHWeH), will be unto her (i.e. the Bride) a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory **in the midst** of her (i.e. in the midst of that spiritual body, the Bride of the Lamb)." (Zechariah 2:5)*

The Lord God wants to be for us a fiery wall round about (for our complete protection against the satanic attacks of the enemy), and the glory of our inner being.

"And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness." (Colossians 3:14)

He wants to give us His divine love (Greek: agapè), which is the sign of the bond of perfection.

*"To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man **perfect** in Christ Jesus: Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily."* (Colossians 1:27-29)

Christ in us, the Hope of glory. He wants to make us perfect in Christ.

"And without controversy great is the mystery (at first hidden, later [namely in the last days] disclosed) of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified (i.e. made righteous) in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory." (1 Timothy 3:16)

God's glory which at first is still hidden within us, and thus (for ourselves and/or others) invisible, He wants to **reveal** in our flesh. He wants to **justify us** in and through the Holy Spirit.

More Scripture statements on this glory of the Bride in the last days we can read in Revelation 12:1 (which text we already quoted before, approx. 2 pages earlier).

*"For I, saith the Lord (i.e. YaHWeH), will be unto her (i.e. the Bride-[church]) a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory **in the midst** of her (i.e. in the midst of this spiritual body, the Bride of the Lamb)." (Zechariah 2:5)*

*"Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; **forget also thine own people, and thy father's house**; So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty: for he is thy Lord; and worship thou him. And the daughter of Tyre shall be there with a gift; even the rich among the people shall intreat thy favour. The king's daughter is all **glorious within**: her clothing is of wrought gold (type of the **outward** glory). She shall be brought unto the king in raiment of needlework (namely in colourfully embroidered clothes): the virgins her companions that follow her shall be brought unto thee. With gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought: they shall enter into the king's palace." (Psalm 45:10-15)*

"Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." (Isaiah 60:1-3)

God's glory will rise over His Bride, over the New Jerusalem, on which He will begin to build in the last days. The nations will come unto her light, and kings to the lustre that went up in her.

"I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels." (Isaiah 61:10)

Here the Wedding of the Lamb is sung, and the glory of the Bride's clothing of salvation and her robe of righteousness (see Revelation 19:8).

"The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of hosts." (Haggai 2:9)

The glory of the Bride(church) of the last days is greater than the glory of the first Church.

"And saviours (i.e. deliverers) shall come up on mount Zion to judge the mount of Esau (type of the worldly minded Christians); and the kingdom shall be the Lord's." (Obadiah 21)

In the last days the Lord will give deliverers (saviors; these are healers who make people [spiritually] **healthy**) to the Church in order to deliver her from all demonic oppression and bondage of sin.

We have to pursue this perfect Godly holiness, we must hunger and thirst for it. This perfect Godliness does **not** come **automatically**.

*"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they **shall** be filled." (Matthew 5:6)*

"That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:10-14)

The eternal marriage and glory of the Bride, the Wife of the Lamb:

*"For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them **brethren**, Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee. And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, Behold I and the children which God hath given me." (Hebrews 2:11-13)*

*"Then cometh the end, when he (i.e. the Son) shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted (i.e. this does not apply to YaHWeH [the Father]), which did put all things under him (i.e. the Son). And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that **God may be all in all**." (1 Corinthians 15:24-28)*

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." (1 John 3:2-3)

"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But 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. And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, **Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.** And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, **and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God:** and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates³ And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof. And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs⁴. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal⁵. And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits⁶, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass. And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald; the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolyte; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls: every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass. And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it. And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life." (Revelation 21:1-27)

³ In my opinion, these gates are one after the other, similar to the gates of the tabernacle (namely gate, door and veil).

⁴ This is an old Greek linear measure, approx. 182 metres per furlong, thus in total approx. 2,184 km.

⁵ In my opinion the City of God is in the shape of a pyramid, for it is also called the "mountain" Zion.

⁶ This is an old linear measure, based on the length of a human forearm, approx. 69 cm per cubit; thus in total approx. 99 metres.

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