

GOD'S SPIRIT—MAN'S SPIRIT

By Keith Greer

Testifies of God. *“For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.” {1 Corinthians 2:11}*

Testifies of man. *“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.” {Romans 8:16}*

Speaks by revelation. *(God's spirit) “And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” {Acts 2:4}*

Speaks from within. (man's spirit) *“This being so, I myself always strive to have a conscience without offense toward God and men.” {Acts 24:16}* How could Paul keep from offending his conscience? It's simple; he always adhered to God's word—as revealed by the Spirit.

Reliable Scriptures. (God's Spirit) *“Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.” {Matthew 24:35}* God's word cannot and never will change. It equips man for every good work. *“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” {2 Timothy 3:16,17}*

Unreliable feelings. (man's spirit) *“Indeed, I myself thought I must do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth. This I also did in Jerusalem, and many of the saints I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I cast my vote against them. And I punished them often in every synagogue and compelled them to blaspheme; and being exceedingly enraged against them, I persecuted them even to foreign cities.” {Acts 26:9-11}* On the road to Damascus, Paul discovered that his feelings had led him in the wrong direction.

Must be born again. (God's spirit) *Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.” {John 3:5}* According to the Holy Spirit, a spiritual birth is absolutely essential.

Born again. (man's spirit) *“Having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever.” {1 Peter 1:23}* Men must choose to become part of God's family.

Blessings in Christ. (God's spirit) *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.” {Ephesians 1:3}* All spiritual blessings that are attainable to God's children can only be found in Him—nowhere else! What important question does this imply one must have an answer for? How does one get INTO Christ?

“Put on Christ.” (man's spirit) *“For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” {Galatians 3:27}*

Dear readers, God reveals His will to us through the Holy Spirit. This is the only method revealing divine truth that God's word plainly instructed from His book. When we follow His testimony, we are "walking after the Spirit." When we strive to follow the Holy Spirit's instructions, our spirit is bearing witness with His Spirit. In no other ways can one correctly acknowledge that he is being **LED BY THE SPIRIT!**

Sadly, the world has never accepted the word as the medium through which the Holy Spirit works. It isn't mystical or supernatural; it is as simple as reading, believing, and obeying! Yes, one has free moral agency to decide if they will listen and follow His instruction in their lives. God forces no one to accept Him or mold one's life around the teachings and guidelines He left for men to follow. Who are you following? ***