

GOD THE SPIRIT



.....and Jesus said: God is spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24)

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....a school of pneumatology*

(The three circles represent our God, Who is a Consuming Fire)

What is a 'school of pneumatology'?

John G. Lake made the following statement:

Chair of Pneumatology –
(from The Science of Healing)

My soul has grown tired long ago of men treating the whole subject of Christianity as though it were child's play. We have our physical sciences, we have our psychological sciences, the action of the mind, taught in the great schools of the land, but there is something greater. One of these days there is going to be a new chair. It will be the chair of pneumatology...the science of spirit, by which men will undertake to discover the laws of God. And by the grace of God, man shall know that God is alive, and the living Spirit of God is no dream.

What happens in the spirit of man at the new birth?

What are the operations by which God heals the physical body?

The laws by which the world of spirit – the unseen world – operate.

Spiritual Mechanics.

God the Spirit – Man the Spirit – Satan the Spirit.

Zoe – the Life of God.

All are subject in a 'School of Pneumatology'.



Father,

I pray for those about to begin this study in a school of pneumatology. May the eyes of their understanding be enlightened, to know You, Your Person and Your Being. May they learn to be at home in the spiritual realm, for that is where You are. May the reality of themselves also being a spirit open to them in greater measure, in Jesus' Name, Amen.

GOD THE SPIRIT

Chapter 1 **What God Is**

“And Jesus said, God is a spirit, and those who worship Him, must worship Him in spirit and truth.” John 4:24

“If we can ever come to the knowledge of what spirit beings are like, then we can begin to comprehend God as spirit (and ourselves as spirit).” F. Dake,



When you were born again, your life in God started with the “heart”. Or at least, what you then called the “heart” and probably still do many times. “Jesus, come into my heart.” “Since Jesus came into my heart,” the old hymn says. We teach little children that we have lead to the Savior, “Jesus lives in my heart.”

Technically, we know that the physical Jesus doesn’t live in there! So what do we mean?

Spiritual things begin to infiltrate our lives and vocabulary, but we don’t make the connection that ‘spirit’ is what we are referring to.

We don’t actually mean our ‘physical’ heart, when we say, “Jesus, come into my heart,” do we?

So the whole idea of physical has no place in the new birth.....it is not a physical birth. Jesus said in John 3: “that which is born of flesh is flesh, and that which is born of Spirit is spirit.”

Usually we think, “Holy Spirit” in that verse: “that which is born of the Holy Spirit is my spirit.”

Taking it back to Who the Holy Spirit flows from, we would read: “That which is born of God, the Spirit, is my spirit.

In Hebrews Chapter 12, God is called the “Father of spirits”.

A Spirit births spirit!

This is not to leave the idea that before you were born again you had no spirit.....you have been a spirit from the time of your physical birth or before, in your mother's womb.....however, the nature of sin was living in you at the time of your salvation, and that is why Jesus said: "You must be born again." In the new birth, God places His nature, Himself, in you, the spirit.

God IS A spirit.
Man IS A spirit.
Satan IS A spirit.

"As many as are led by God, the Spirit.....etc."

When you said, "Jesus come into my heart," you were inviting God, the Spirit, to come and live in you, the spirit.

The only reason God lives in your body, is because you.....the spirit, live in your body.

God can and does exist without a physical body. The physical realm is not essential to His existence. He existed long before this physical realm, and would continue to exist, even if the physical no longer did.

Focusing again on:
GOD, THE SPIRIT
YOU, THE SPIRIT

If you stop right now, and relive your salvation experience, start by thinking of it this way: "I am a spirit being, and I am going to ask another Spirit Being to come and live in me." Then sense God, the Spirit, coming into you, the spirit.

The greatest illumination I received, was when I experienced myself as a spirit being. I have had a dream of my spirit wrestling with a demonic spirit. Spirit to spirit warfare. That also helped to strengthen my understanding of myself as a spirit.

I **am** a spirit.
I, **the spirit**, possess a soul (mind, will & emotions).
I, **the spirit**, live in a physical body.

God is a spirit,
God, the spirit, possesses a soul.
God the spirit, lives in **a spirit** body.

Some time ago a book was written discussing the spirit body that God has. That His spirit body has the same appearance as yours: hands, feet, face, mouth, etc.

Your physical body was fashioned after the appearance of His spirit body. When you get to heaven, you won't find a God who is different in appearance than you. His body, however, is of a different substance than yours. Your body was made of the 'dust of the earth'. His body is of a spiritual substance for it is the realm in which He lives.....the spirit realm. We live in the physical and so must have a body that will enable us to relate to the physical world which God created for us to live in. We would be in quite a state trying to live here without our physical bodies! You would call your dog and he wouldn't know where to come to you because he couldn't see you!

Can you imagine a man and woman standing at an altar being married..... without physical bodies. Their clothes would be standing there with what appeared to be 'nothing' in them! Reminds me of the old TV show that used to be on..... "Topper" I think it was. But that old show, demonstrated the reality of spirit.....invisible to the naked eye but real none the less.

"By faith, we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God, so that the things which are seen were created from that which can't be seen (with the physical eye)." (Hebrews 11:3)

.....We believe in God, so that is how we know that God made the world by his word. The things we see were made out of things that cannot be seen.
(Worldwide English NT)

A **Spirit** created the physical.
A **Spirit created** the physical.
A **Spirit created the *physical***.

That which was in the beginning was Spirit, not physical.....not material.
Real/real is spirit, not physical.
The physical came out of the Spirit.....I started to put, 'spirit realm', but the Holy Spirit said, 'no, out of the Spirit'....and I knew He meant God, the spirit.

Back in Genesis 1: "And God said, let there be....."

"Let there be light," A Spirit spoke these words.
"My words are spirit and they are life," John 6:63.

"And the Spirit of God hovered upon the face of the deep."
".....and there was!"

God the spirit spoke spirit words.

God the Holy Spirit took the spirit words that God, who is spirit, spoke and created all you see physically.

That is how everything is still created.....by spirits speaking words. That is how you change the seen.....you the spirit speaking words to change the seen.

You may think I am repeating myself, but that is how you meditate the real into yourself.

You say it over and over, think it over and over in a myriad of different ways.

A person's success as a believer will increase tremendously when he or she learns to think, 'spirit'.

It is a key to stopping the works of the flesh, strife in the Body, etc. for we really learn that we (the real us) is not flesh and blood fighting others who are only flesh and blood.

Basically, that is what 'world' wars are: flesh fighting flesh.

Paul said, "we wrestle not with flesh and blood, but with persons without (physical) bodies."

- Demons have bodies, they just aren't physical.....they are made up of spiritual substance.

We read in Ezekiel and Isaiah about Satan's spirit body's appearance:

Ezek. 28:12-19

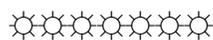
Isaiah 14:12-20

(we will look at these verses more in our study on Satan the spirit)

People have described demons when they see them as being of all sorts of shapes and sizes.

- Angels also have spirit bodies.
- You are a spirit.....

Your success in the physical comes from moving from that realm, from the real you, spirit....into the physical.



Continuing on now with God the spirit.....

God, the spirit, said words which were spirit and created the physical.

The pattern is still the same:

You, the spirit, say words which are spirit and create the physical.

What has been called 'formulas' (confessions of faith), most of the time are not formulas at all, but patterns that God has given us in how to live after His image.

Something is labeled a 'formula' when it is done over and over. Well, we would all be in a fix if Einstein had kept trying to discover $E=mc^2$ over and over. No, he worked it over and over. It is called a 'formula' and no one seems to mind!

Do you suppose, the 'accuser' of the brethren has leveled this accusation against words he knows works to stop its being perpetuated in future generations of the church?



Chapter 2

The Appearance of God the spirit

Going through the scriptures, I think of God's 'voice'.....Genesis 3:8.
How does a voice 'walk'? If you really think about it, when someone calls to you and they are in another room, it is as though their voice 'walked' into where you were and spoke to you as though they were standing there right next to you. Adam & Eve heard the audible voice of God calling to them.

Also:

His glory appearing to Moses.

Ezekiel seeing Him by the river Chebar.

John seeing Him on His throne in the Book of Revelation.

Imagine a heavy mist, and out of that mist comes two hands. That mist represents the spirit world.....the 'hands' are the hands of God.....creating, healing, restoring. Also, the 'handwriting on the wall' as in the book of Daniel.

In a way, the Holy Spirit is like the 'hands' of God. When you minister healing to someone, He, the Holy Spirit, extends His hands out of the 'mist' of the spirit world, flows through you, the spirit, then out through the physical hands of your body in which you live into the other person.

The Written Scriptures of the New Covenant are also the 'hands of God' as revealed in Jesus Christ, but these other illustrations are not to take away from the fact that God does have literal 'hands'.

When Moses saw His glory, when Ezekiel & John saw God's spirit body, it was as though God came out of the mist of the spirit world and into the physical realm.

People have talked of seeing the Presence of God like a fog in their room or worship center. Actually, what is happening is that their eyes are being enabled by God to see into the spirit realm and what is taking place there.....the 'discerning of spirits'. The Presence of God isn't actually appearing as a physical fog, though God is able to effect the physical also, for example, Mt. Sinai quaking and on fire as a result of His Presence upon it, the Red Sea parting.

In our New Testament age, it is the usual thing for God to enable US to see into the spirit realm, more so than us seeing the spirit realm manifest in or upon the physical as at Mt. Sinai or the Red Sea.

We will now look at the passages in Ezekiel and Revelation in particular. I have included these from different translations for particular reasons, to be read for in depth study and then for reading as a story. It is good not to hurry over these passages and to read them from different translations....God, though unseen to the naked eye, becomes very real to the eyes of the heart!



- *Ezekiel 1: Amplified Bible*

¹NOW [when I Daniel was] in [my] thirtieth year, in the fourth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I was in the midst of captivity beside the river Chebar [in Babylonia], the heavens were opened and I saw visions of God.

⁴As I looked, behold, a stormy wind came out of the north, and a great cloud with a fire enveloping it and flashing continually; a brightness was about it and out of the midst of it there seemed to glow amber metal, out of the midst of the fire.⁵And out of the midst of it (the great fiery cloud) came the likeness of four living creatures [or cherubim]. And this was their appearance: they had the likeness of a man,⁶But each one had four faces and each one had four wings.⁷And their legs were straight legs, and the sole of their feet was like the sole of a calf's foot, and they sparkled like burnished bronze.⁸And they had the hands of a man under their wings on their four sides. And the four of them had their faces and their wings thus:⁹Their wings touched one another; they turned not when they went but went every one straight forward.¹⁰As for the likeness of their faces, they each had the face of a man [in front], and each had the face of a lion on the right side and the face of an ox on the left side; the four also had the face of an eagle [at the back of their heads].¹¹Such were their faces. And their wings were stretched out upward [each creature had four wings]; two wings of each one were touching the [adjacent] wing of the creatures on either side of it, and [the remaining] two wings of each creature covered its body.¹²And they went every one straight forward; wherever the spirit would go, they went, and they turned not when they went.¹³In the midst of the living creatures there was what looked like burning coals of fire, like torches moving to and fro among the living creatures; the fire was bright and out of the fire went forth lightning.¹⁴And the living creatures darted back and forth like a flash of lightning.¹⁵Now as I was still looking at the living creatures, I saw one

wheel upon the ground beside each of the living creatures with its four faces.¹⁶As to the appearance of the wheels and their construction: in appearance they gleamed like chrysolite; and the four were formed alike, and their construction work was as it were a wheel within a wheel.¹⁷When they went, they went in one of their four directions without turning [for they were faced that way].¹⁸As for their rims, they were so high that they were dreadful, and the four had their rims full of eyes round about.¹⁹And when the living creatures went, the wheels went beside them; and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up.²⁰Wherever the spirit went, the creatures went and the wheels rose along with them, for the spirit or life of the [four living creatures acting as one] living creature was in the wheels.²¹When those went, these went; and when those stood, these stood; and when those were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up high beside them, for the spirit or life of the [combined] living creature was in the wheels.

²²Over the head of the [combined] living creature there was the likeness of a firmament, looking like the terrible and awesome [dazzling of shining] crystal or ice stretched across the expanse of sky over their heads.²⁴And when they went, I heard the sound of their wings like the noise of great waters, like the voice of the Almighty, the sound of tumult like the noise of a host. When they stood, they let down their wings.

²⁵And there was a voice above the firmament that was over their heads; when they stood, they let down their wings.²⁶And above the firmament that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne in appearance like a sapphire stone, and seated above the likeness of a throne was a likeness with the appearance of a Man.²⁷From what had the appearance of His waist upward, I saw a lustre as it were glowing metal with the appearance of fire enclosed round about within it; and from the appearance of His waist downward, I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and there was brightness [of a halo] round about Him.²⁸Like the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud on the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness round about. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. And when I saw it, I fell upon my face and I heard a voice of One speaking.

- *Wheels Within Wheels, Like a Gyroscope: The Message Bible*

¹When I was thirty years of age, I was living with the exiles on the Kebar River. On the fifth day of the fourth month, the sky opened up and I saw visions of God. ⁴I looked: I saw an immense dust storm come from the north, an immense cloud with lightning flashing from it, a huge ball of fire glowing like bronze. ⁵Within the fire were what looked like four creatures vibrant with life. Each had the form of a human being, ⁶but each also had four faces and four wings. ⁷Their legs were as sturdy and straight as columns, but their feet were hooped like those of a calf and sparkled from the fire like burnished bronze. ⁸On all four sides under their wings

they had human hands. All four had both faces and wings, ⁹with the wings touching one another. They turned neither one way nor the other; they went straight forward.¹⁰Their faces looked like this: In front a human face, on the right side the face of a lion, on the left the face of an ox, and in back the face of an eagle. ¹¹So much for the faces. The wings were spread out with the tips of one pair touching the creature on either side; the other pair of wings covered its body. ¹²Each creature went straight ahead. Wherever the spirit went, they went. They didn't turn as they went.¹³The four creatures looked like a blazing fire, or like fiery torches. Tongues of fire shot back and forth between the creatures, and out of the fire, bolts of lightning. ¹⁴The creatures flashed back and forth like strikes of lightning.¹⁵As I watched the four creatures, I saw something that looked like a wheel on the ground beside each of the four-faced creatures. ¹⁶This is what the wheels looked like: They were identical wheels, sparkling like diamonds in the sun. It looked like they were wheels within wheels, like a gyroscope.¹⁷They went in any one of the four directions they faced, but straight, not veering off. ¹⁸The rims were immense, circled with eyes. ¹⁹When the living creatures went, the wheels went; when the living creatures lifted off, the wheels lifted off. ²⁰Wherever the spirit went, they went, the wheels sticking right with them, for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels.

²²Over the heads of the living creatures was something like a dome, shimmering like a sky full of cut glass, vaulted over their heads. ²³Under the dome one set of wings was extended toward the others, with another set of wings covering their bodies. ²⁴When they moved I heard their wings--it was like the roar of a great waterfall, like the voice of The Strong God, like the noise of a battlefield. When they stopped, they folded their wings.²⁵And then, as they stood with folded wings, there was a voice from above the dome over their heads.

²⁶Above the dome there was something that looked like a throne, sky-blue like a sapphire, with a humanlike figure towering above the throne. ²⁷From what I could see, from the waist up he looked like burnished bronze and from the waist down like a blazing fire. Brightness everywhere! ²⁸The way a rainbow springs out of the sky on a rainy day--that's what it was like. It turned out to be the Glory of GOD! When I saw all this, I fell to my knees, my face to the ground. Then I heard a voice.

- *A Vision of Living Beings: The New Living Translation*

Beginning at Vs. 26:

²⁶Above the surface over their heads was what looked like a throne made of blue sapphire. And high above this throne was a figure whose appearance was like that of a man. ²⁷From his waist up, he looked like gleaming amber, flickering like a fire. And from his waist down, he looked like a burning flame, shining with splendor.

²⁸All around him was a glowing halo, like a rainbow shining through the clouds. This was the way the glory of the LORD appeared to me. When I saw it, I fell face down in the dust, and I heard someone's voice speaking to me.

This entire chapter is very intriguing.....I believe it is literal. That is as the spirit realm appears were you to see it. The winged cherubim, their mode of travel and speed, how God appears, his mode of travel.

God's form is as that of a man, Ezekiel says.

Waist up.....

Waist down.....

Really, the form of man is as the form of God.

What do you the spirit look like?

This tells you.

You have arms, legs, a waist, ears, etc.

When people are seen WITHOUT the physical body, they look just like they did when they HAD a physical body. This tell you that you the spirit, in appearance, looks just like you see yourself in the mirror!

These verses describe God's form.....as a spirit being.

They also describe God's appearance.....as a spirit being:

.....from the waist up like gleaming amber, flickering like a fire.

.....from the waist down, like a burning flame, shining with splendor.

.....burnished bronze.

.....blazing fire.

.....brightness everywhere!

.. a lustre as it were glowing metal with the appearance of fire enclosed round about within it.

That is the glory.....outshining from God inward being. It is as though spirit bodies are transparent and what is inside of them shines out.

Remember, God is a spirit.

He possesses a soul.

He lives in a spirit body.

God, who is a spirit shines out of His spirit body.....

John the Revelator saw a similar scene in Revelation Chapter 4:



- Amplified Bible:

¹AFTER THIS I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice which I had heard addressing me like [the calling of] a war trumpet said, Come up here, and I will show you what must take place in the future.²At once I came under the [Holy] Spirit's power, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with One seated on the throne! ³And He Who sat there appeared like [the crystalline brightness of] jasper and [the fiery] sardius, and encircling the throne there was a halo that looked like [a rainbow of] emerald.

- *A Door into Heaven: The Message Bible*

¹Then I looked, and, oh! a door open into Heaven. The trumpet-voice, the first voice in my vision, called out, "Ascend and enter. I'll show you what happens next."²I was caught up at once in deep worship and, oh! a Throne set in Heaven with One Seated on the Throne, ³suffused in gem hues of amber and flame with a nimbus of emerald. ⁴Twenty-four thrones circled the Throne, with Twenty-four Elders seated, white-robed, gold-crowned. ⁵Lightning flash and thunder crash pulsed from the Throne. Seven fire-blazing torches fronted the Throne (these are the Sevenfold Spirit of God). ⁶Before the Throne it was like a clear crystal sea. Prowling around the Throne were Four Animals, all eyes. Eyes to look ahead, eyes to look behind. ⁷The first Animal like a lion, the second like an ox, the third with a human face, the fourth like an eagle in flight. ⁸The Four Animals were winged, each with six wings.

They were all eyes, seeing around and within. And they chanted night and day, never taking a break:

Holy, holy, holy
Is God our Master, Sovereign-Strong,
THE WAS, THE IS, THE COMING.

- Worship in Heaven: New Living Translation

¹Then as I looked, I saw a door standing open in heaven, and the same voice I had heard before spoke to me with the sound of a mighty trumpet blast. The voice said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must happen after these things." ²And instantly I was in the Spirit, ^[1] and I saw a throne in heaven and someone sitting on it! ³The one sitting on the throne was as brilliant as gemstones--jasper and carnelian. And the glow of an emerald circled his throne like a rainbow.

Other translations:

..... He Who sat there appeared like [the crystalline brightness of] jasper and [the fiery] sardius.

..... One Seated on the Throne, suffused in gem hues of amber and flame with a nimbus of emerald.

.....The one sitting on the throne was as brilliant as gemstones--jasper and carnelian.

Place yourself, not WITH Ezekiel and John, but IN them as they beheld this great sight!

It is the appearance of our Father!
How awesome He is!
The greatest Being, Person who ever was, is or will be!

His splendor will lighten the new heavens and earth.

Revelation 21:

.....²³And the city (New Jerusalem) has no need of the sun nor of the moon to give light to it, for the splendor and radiance (glory) of God illuminate it, and the Lamb is its lamp.

This is the One before Whom you come when you come boldly to the Throne of Grace, to find mercy and grace to help in time of need.

Even in these scriptures describing the throne.....do you think about what the throne looks like as you come before it! The four-faced cherubim, the sea of glass.....the rainbow round about the throne. Such is the Holy of Holies. Such is the throne room in the heavens. It's appearance was the same in Ezekiel and Revelation.....so it is in reality. Not symbolism. Not types and shadows. But substance....the real substance. Spiritual substance.

Paul said that when he was caught up to the third heaven, he saw and heard things that cannot be uttered in mortal tongue.....such are the glories of what await us as spirit beings. Truly, eye has not seen, nor ear heard what yet awaits us in the Father-land!

2 Corinthians 12:

²I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago--whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows--was caught up to the third heaven.³And I know that this man--whether in the body or away from the body I do not know, God knows--⁴Was caught up into paradise, and he heard utterances beyond the power of man to put into words, which man is not permitted to utter. (AMP)

.....this man was hijacked into paradise--again, whether in or out of the body, I don't know; God knows. There he heard the unspeakable spoken, but was forbidden to tell what he heard. (Message)

Years ago, I was given a set of tapes by Percy Collett.....he claimed to have been caught up to heaven.....and tells of the things which he saw there. From the scriptures in Ezekiel and Revelation, I would be inclined to believe most of what he said.

Others also who have told their story: Roberts Liardon, Jessie DuPlantis, etc.

Remember: **this** is the world from which you have been re-born!
This is your 'natural' habitat!

I have heard death described as nothing more than 'passing through a shadow'. Think of what passing through a shadow here on earth is like. You don't even know you have done it.....there is no feeling associated with it, except maybe a sense of temperature change on the body once in awhile depending on the depth of the shadow. Shadows are so 'natural' to our existence here, we pay little or no attention to them.

So with death.....we should become so acclimated to living in the spirit realm BEFORE we die, that death is like nothing more than passing through a shadow to us.

Taught properly, people going toward the end of their physical life, should become more and more 'spirit' acclimated. Take a look at the chart below:

Awareness of: (this is just for illustration purposes)	spirit world	natural world
At birth:	95%	5%
2 years	50%	50%
8 years	25%	75%
15 years	10%	90%
Salvation	90%	10%

At this stage if a person does not grow in spiritual realities, the awareness of the spiritual realm that they received at salvation begins to diminish, and they live out their Christian life, living more in the natural than the spiritual. Paul called this 'carnal'.

If a believer develops as they should, their awareness of the spirit realm should increase more and more, so that at the time they are ready to go home to be with the Lord, they are aware of the natural about 5% and of the spirit realm, 95%.

The closer the time gets for the cord of life to break, the awareness transfers more and more. When the spirit leaves the body, the awareness of the spirit realm becomes 100% because there is NO natural realm open to the person any more.

God's appearance.....continuing on:

The Written Scriptures are your final authority for spiritual realm realities. They tell us about the Father's appearance. You can rely on them and don't need to go about conjuring up or searching out other 'apparitions' or visions that people have had about the Father. Ezekiel and John have related to us their encounter with Him and how they saw him. Both are telling us the same thing....yet they lived hundreds of years apart. When you do hear of someone's vision or visitation to heaven, try their testimony against the Word of God. Prove all things, hold fast to that which is proved true.

When you think of 'father', think of This One. He is so far superior to earthly ideas of father.....for He is of another realm. If you have a photo of your earthly father's appearance, these men: John & Ezekiel, give you a 'photo' of your heavenly Father's appearance.

Have that photo before you at all times.....He never leaves nor forsakes you. The greatness of his image, expresses the greatness of His Person and Being..... "Is there anything too hard for Me?" You will never feel 'without' when you have this 'photo' before you!

Chapter 3

God the spirit, His Qualities

The great forces of this physical world, are the spiritual forces which are interacting in it: love/hate; joy/sorrow; spiritual life/spiritual death; peace/anxiety, etc.

- God IS love, John tells you in 1 John 4:16.

God is a spirit.

Love is a force.....emanation, essence that is Him and flows from Him.

God's love is not the emotional kind that we know and gauge earthly love by.

His Love is a Covenant Love.....based on decision, will, not emotion.
This love gives a security that emotional love does not.

Emotional love is fickle.....based on pleasure given and received.

Many times we can 'feel' God's love for us emotionally, but in reality His love for you is flowing from Him as a spirit.

God's love certainly was not based on our pleasing Him.....for while we were yet sinners Christ died for us; while we were God's enemies!

Since He spared not His Own Son, but gave Him up for us all, while we were God's enemies.....how much more does He not WILL now, to give us all things?

Such is the force of love that originates in the Spirit that is God.

- Another of His qualities: Permanence

This is another 'pillar' of security for our lives. God, the spirit, is a permanent being. This is expressed in the Basic Doctrines of Faith this way: "God is the eternally existent one, Who always has been, is, and always will be."

In truth, you the spirit, are just as eternally existent as God, now.
Yes, you had a beginning once, but now that you exist, you will never cease to exist, as some of the cults teach.....no life beyond the grave.

There is permanence in the existence of God.
There is permanence in your existence.

Oh death, where is your sting?
Oh grave, where is your victory?

You (death) have been robbed of both your sting and your victory, by the Father of spirits!

Will He ever cease to be the Help you need in time of trouble? No!
Will He ever cease to be that Friend that sticks closer than a brother? No!
Will He fail to raise your dead body because somewhere along the line HE ceased to exist? No!

Every word spoken, He will exist to perform!

Permanence: lets look at the dictionary for some further definitions.
.....durability, solidity, stability, immovability, eternalness, intransience, continuance in the same state or place; duration; fixedness, the property of being able to exist for an indefinite duration.

THAT'S MY FATHER!

Where do I go when there's no one else to turn to?
Where do I run to when the winds of sorrow threaten?
Is there a refuge in the time of tribulation?
Yes, when my soul needs consolation, I go to THE ROCK!

1 Peter 2:6:
thus it stands in Scripture: Behold, I am laying in Zion a chosen (honored), precious chief Cornerstone, and he who believes in Him [who adheres to, trusts in, and relies on Him] shall never be disappointed or put to shame. ⁷To you then who believe (who adhere to, trust in, and rely on Him) is the preciousness; but for those who disbelieve [it is true], The [very] Stone which the builders rejected has become the main Cornerstone. AMP

In Daniel we find it stated again: that the Stone becomes the mountain that fills earth and eternity:

Daniel 2: *Nebuchadnezzars Dream*

²⁹"While Your Majesty was sleeping, you dreamed about coming events. The revealer of mysteries has shown you what is going to happen. ³⁰And it is not because I am wiser than any living person that I know the secret of your dream,

but because God wanted you to understand what you were thinking about.³¹"Your Majesty, in your vision you saw in front of you a huge and powerful statue of a man, shining brilliantly, frightening and awesome. ³²The head of the statue was made of fine gold, its chest and arms were of silver, its belly and thighs were of bronze, ³³its legs were of iron, and its feet were a combination of iron and clay. ³⁴But as you watched, a rock was cut from a mountain by supernatural means. It struck the feet of iron and clay, smashing them to bits. ³⁵The whole statue collapsed into a heap of iron, clay, bronze, silver, and gold. The pieces were crushed as small as chaff on a threshing floor, and the wind blew them all away without a trace. But the rock that knocked the statue down became a great mountain that covered the whole earth.³⁶"That was the dream; now I will tell Your Majesty what it means.

³⁷Your Majesty, you are a king over many kings. The God of heaven has given you sovereignty, power, strength, and honor. ³⁸He has made you the ruler over all the inhabited world and has put even the animals and birds under your control. You are the head of gold.³⁹"But after your kingdom comes to an end, another great kingdom, inferior to yours, will rise to take your place. After that kingdom has fallen, yet a third great kingdom, represented by the bronze belly and thighs, will rise to rule the world. ⁴⁰Following that kingdom, there will be a fourth great kingdom, as strong as iron. That kingdom will smash and crush all previous empires, just as iron smashes and crushes everything it strikes. ⁴¹The feet and toes you saw that were a combination of iron and clay show that this kingdom will be divided. ⁴²Some parts of it will be as strong as iron, and others as weak as clay. ⁴³This mixture of iron and clay also shows that these kingdoms will try to strengthen themselves by forming alliances with each other through intermarriage. But this will not succeed, just as iron and clay do not mix.⁴⁴"During the reigns of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed; no one will ever conquer it. It will shatter all these kingdoms into nothingness, but it will stand forever. ⁴⁵That is the meaning of the rock cut from the mountain by supernatural means, crushing to dust the statue of iron, bronze, clay, silver, and gold. "The great God has shown Your Majesty what will happen in the future. The dream is true, and it's meaning is certain."

Daniel 7

Daniel's Vision of Four Beasts

¹Earlier, during the first year of King Belshazzar's reign in Babylon, Daniel had a dream and saw visions as he lay in his bed. He wrote the dream down, and this is what he saw.²In my vision that night, I, Daniel, saw a great storm churning the surface of a great sea, with strong winds blowing from every direction. ³Then four huge beasts came up out of the water, each different from the others.

Daniel 7, (cont'd):

⁹I watched as thrones were put in place and the Ancient One sat down to judge. His clothing was as white as snow, his hair like whitest wool. He sat on a fiery throne with wheels of blazing fire, ¹⁰and a river of fire flowed from his presence. Millions of angels ministered to him, and a hundred million stood to attend him. Then the court began its session, and the books were opened.¹¹I continued to watch because I could hear the little horn's boastful speech. I kept watching until the fourth beast was killed and its body was destroyed by fire. ¹²As for the other three beasts, their authority was taken from them, but they were allowed to live for a while longer. ¹³As my vision continued that night, I saw someone who looked like a man coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient One and was led into his presence. ¹⁴He was given authority, honor, and royal power over all the nations of the world, so that people of every race and nation and language would obey him. His rule is eternal--it will never end. His kingdom will never be destroyed.

THAT IS PERMANENCE!

- Three of the greatest: omni (all)– presence, power and knowledge.

All-presence: I sometimes picture the world from space.....and then I see God all over it. I imagine the smallest to the largest places; the most remote to the most populous; the safest to the most dangerous. In them all I see His Presence. This encourages me, that there will be no place that I will ever be, or any one I know will ever be, that HE won't be! If I pray wherever I am, He is there wherever the Answer needs to be. My loved ones are never beyond the reach of my prayers or His Presence. Permanent Presence. All pervasive Presence. And.....

All-powerful Presence: religion has dispensationalized the power of God. "Well, miracles ceased with the last apostle." I am glad that someone reached me with the Whole Word of God before I was indoctrinated with such a powerless 'gospel'. Jesus is to me Who He was in Matthew, Mark, Luke & John. Who He was in the Book of Acts, the epistles and Revelation.

The SAME: yesterday, today and forever.
That means the same in power.
The same in availability of that power.

He came to deliver me from the fear of premature death. Paul said that when he was stoned and left for dead, he 'had the answer to death within himself'. The Holy Spirit tied that together for me, with Romans 8:11: "If the same Spirit that

raised Christ from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken *YOUR MORTAL* body."

2 Corinthians 1:8

⁸ For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life:⁹ But we had the *sentence** of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead:¹⁰ Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us;

*Sentence: Gk, Answer

ANSWER

2. apokrima: denotes a judicial "sentence," <2 Cor. 1:9>, KJV, and RV, margin, or an "answer" (RV, text), an answer of God to the apostle's appeal, giving him strong confidence. In an ancient inscription it is used of an official decision. In a papyrus document it is used of a reply to a deputation.

Paul carried the answer to premature death around IN him! The Spirit that raised Christ from the dead.

Hebrews 2:

¹⁴ Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; ¹⁵ And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

..... And also that He might deliver and completely set free all those who through the [haunting] fear of death were held in bondage throughout the whole course of their lives.

Paul left this physical realm when he was ready:

2 Timothy 4:6

I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

⁷ I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.



Some trust in horses, some trust in chariots, but I trust in the power of the Lord, my God. Not by man's might, not by man's power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord of hosts.....I can do all things through Christ who em-powers me.

The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available, dynamic in its working.

Just as God does not diminish in existence, or presence, He also does not diminish in power.

Permanent power!

All-knowledge: the foolishness of God is wiser than men and the wisdom of men is foolishness to God.....

1 Corinthians 1: (Amplified)

¹⁷For Christ (the Messiah) sent me out not to baptize but [to evangelize by] preaching the glad tidings (the Gospel), and that not with verbal eloquence, lest the cross of Christ should be deprived of force and emptied of its power and rendered vain (fruitless, void of value, and of no effect).¹⁸For the story and message of the cross is sheer absurdity and folly to those who are perishing and on their way to perdition, but to us who are being saved it is the [manifestation of] the power of God.¹⁹For it is written, I will baffle and render useless and destroy the learning of the learned and the philosophy of the philosophers and the cleverness of the clever and the discernment of the discerning; I will frustrate and nullify [them] and bring [them] to nothing.²⁰Where is the wise man (the philosopher)? Where is the scribe (the scholar)? Where is the investigator (the logician, the debater) of this present time and age? Has not God shown up the nonsense and the folly of this world's wisdom? ²¹For when the world with all its earthly wisdom failed to perceive and recognize and know God by means of its own philosophy, God in His wisdom was pleased through the foolishness of preaching [salvation, procured by Christ and to be had through Him], to save those who believed (who clung to and trusted in and relied on Him).²²For while Jews [demandingly] ask for signs and miracles and Greeks pursue philosophy and wisdom,²³We preach Christ (the Messiah) crucified, [preaching which] to the Jews is a scandal and an offensive stumbling block [that springs a snare or trap], and to the Gentiles it is absurd and utterly unphilosophical nonsense. ²⁴But to those who are called, whether Jew or Greek (Gentile), Christ [is] the Power of God and the Wisdom of God.²⁵[This is] because the foolish thing [that has its source in] God is wiser than men, and the weak thing [that springs] from God is stronger than men.

I heard someone relate his experience of the devil appearing to him and the greatest impression that he received was that of all-knowledge. He said that it was quite intimidating and afterwards, he wondered how he could ever compete on that level with such a being.

Just then the Spirit of God spoke within him: "he may have knowledge, but he has no WISDOM."

1 **Corinthians** **2**

¹AS FOR myself, brethren, when I came to you, I did not come proclaiming to you the testimony and evidence or mystery and secret of God [concerning what He has done through Christ for the salvation of men] in lofty words of eloquence or human philosophy and wisdom; ²For I resolved to know nothing (to be acquainted with nothing, to make a display of the knowledge of nothing, and to be conscious of nothing) among you except Jesus Christ (the Messiah) and Him crucified.³And I was in (passed into a state of) weakness and fear (dread) and great trembling [after I had come] among you.⁴And my language and my message were not set forth in persuasive (enticing and plausible) words of wisdom, but they were in demonstration of the [Holy] Spirit and power [a proof by the Spirit and power of God, operating on me and stirring in the minds of my hearers the most holy emotions and thus persuading them],⁵So that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men (human philosophy), but in the power of God.⁶Yet when we are among the full-grown (spiritually mature Christians who are ripe in understanding), we do impart a [higher] wisdom (the knowledge of the divine plan previously hidden); but it is indeed not a wisdom of this present age or of this world nor of the leaders and rulers of this age, who are being brought to nothing and are doomed to pass away.⁷But rather what we are setting forth is a wisdom of God once hidden [from the human understanding] and now revealed to us by God--[that wisdom] which God devised and decreed before the ages for our glorification [to lift us into the glory of His presence].⁸None of the rulers of this age or world perceived and recognized and understood this, for if they had, they would never have crucified the Lord of glory.

That is one thing about God's knowledge, it is accompanied by WISDOM.

Vine's defines wisdom as 'insight into the true nature of things'.

A companion to wisdom is prudence: 'the ability to discern modes of action with a view to the results.'

We are blessed to have a God who has both!

When I come to the end of my knowledge or intelligence in any area, (how to deal wisely in the affairs of life), I have an All-present Repository of knowledge and wisdom at my disposal, I have but to ask and it will be given to me liberally and I

will not be rebuked for asking or called foolish no matter how many times a day I ask.....

James 1:

⁵If any of you is deficient in wisdom, let him ask of the giving God [Who gives] to everyone liberally and ungrudgingly, without reproaching or faultfinding, and it will be given him.

I remember hearing John Osteen say: "the greatest day of my life is the day that I found out God is smarter than I am!"

Amen to that, and we better not forget it!

Before leaving this area, I want to point out that the first thing that Jesus is made unto you is wisdom:

1 Corinthians 1:

³⁰But it is from Him that you have your life in Christ Jesus, Whom God made our Wisdom from God, [revealed to us a knowledge of the divine plan of salvation previously hidden, manifesting itself as] our Righteousness [thus making us upright and putting us in right standing with God], and our Consecration [making us pure and holy], and our Redemption [providing our ransom from eternal penalty for sin]. (Amp)

.....³⁰ But of him ye be in Christ Jesus, which is made of God to us wisdom, and rightwiseness, and holiness, and again-buying; (Wycliffe)

As Christ comes to youthe Wisdom of God comes to you, you are able to understand the work of the Cross and receive the next thing: righteousness, etc.

We have the mind of the Lord available to us.....on tap, so to speak, and it is 'doled' out as we need it.

Wisdom and knowledge, all-present and PERMANENT!

We have not begun to delve into the qualities of God, but we have taken a short look at the greatest.

Again, these qualities are spirit in essence.....pneumatologies.....
Spirit theologies.....

So as you continue to study the qualities of God in other areas.....always begin with the fact that these are spiritual realities, proceeding from a Spirit Being.....a Pneuma.

Chapter 4 "That We May Know Him"

John 17:3

"...and this is life eternal, that they may know thee, the only true god and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."

I cannot close this section of our studies without covering a section of Scripture in 1 Corinthians. As we begin to do that, let's start with a question:

Does God want me to know Him?

Do these verses sound familiar:

Isaiah 64:4

4 For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him.
(KJV)

The New Testament writing of this verse says:

1 Corinthians 2:9

9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.
(KJV)

Paul is here quoting Isaiah, but he does not stop there. Tradition stops there and says: "We can't know God....you never know what He is going to do.....His ways are past finding out." They will even quote Paul later in his 1 Corinthian writings: "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" as further proof that we can't know God or His mind toward us and the circumstances of life.

Or this scripture will be applied to what awaits us in heaven, that our 'eye has not seen and our ear has not heard'. Which is one application of this passage that certainly is true.

In its context in 1 Corinthians, however, Paul goes on to tell us:

1 Corinthians 2:10

But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. (KJV)

In New Covenant times, (which we are living in), God is pleased to reveal His deep things to us. Paul mentions in Ephesians, that what was a mystery hidden in God, has now been revealed.

In the above verse Paul tells us how God reveals His deep things to us: by His Spirit.

Going on in this section of scripture, Paul says:

1 Corinthians 2:11-13

11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

God Is.....an overview:

God is Spirit

God is Life

God is Infinite

God is Immutable

God is Truth

God is Love

God is Eternal

God is Holy

God is Immortal

God is Invisible

God is Omnipresent

God is Omniscient

God is Omnipotent

Chapter 5 "God's Anatomy"

"Our own anatomy is God's most complete biography of Himself."
.....Kenneth Ulmer

When God said: "Let us make man in our image and after our likeness, He was referring to substance AND shape.

God's substance is spirit.
Our substance is spirit.

What about God's shape?
Since God made us in His 'likeness', then He must have a bodily shape like ours.

Let's look at some verses that refer to God's spirit-body parts:

The Face of God

Matthew 18:10

Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, that in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.

Psalm 27:8

When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, Lord, will I seek.

The Eyes of God

Psalms 11:4

The Lord is in his holy temple, the Lord's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.

The Ears of God

1 Peter 3:12

For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers.

The Nose of God

2 Samuel 22:16

And the channels of the sea appeared, the foundations of the world were discovered, at the rebuking of the Lord, at the blast of the breath of his nostrils.

The Mouth of God

Deuteronomy 8:3

And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.

Isaiah 40:5

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Isaiah 55:11

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth; it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

The Hand of God

Mark 16:19

So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

Acts 7:56

And said: Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

The Feet of God

Exodus 24:10

And they saw the God of Israel: and there was under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in his clearness.

There are many more scriptures that speak of the various parts of God's spirit-body.



This concludes this very basic introduction to the subject: "God - the Spirit". I encourage you to continue your studies along this line and build on the scriptures that have been shared. Be sure to stay within the boundaries of the written Word of God to avoid falling under the influence of a seducing spirit or demonic doctrine even in this subject. There are many teachings in the earth today attempting to explain God, His Nature and His Being. Only the Bible gives you TRUTH.

Extra information:

Book studies on this subject:

God's Plan for Man: Finis Dake

Pg. 49, Lesson Four, the Truth about God

Rev. Dake gives many scriptures in his points below and further enlarges on the material by NLI above. We have covered what could be considered a 'general introduction' to the subject, "God the Spirit". Dake's is an in depth study.

If you do not go over the Dake material at this time, it would be good for you to have his book, "God's Plan for Man" to refer to in the future should you want to study the subject in greater detail or for reference in settling doctrinal issues.

Dake is very 'concrete' in his analysis of the scriptures. He is not given to 'spiritualizing' truth, but takes the Word for its literal meaning unless some other meaning is clearly intended.

Copies of God's Plan for Man are available @ Amazon.com, etc. or through Dake Publishing House (online also)

God's Plan for Man, Lesson 4, pg. 49 –66.
Finis Dake

The Truth about God

Chapter outline for your information:

1. Definition of terms:

God

Godhead

One

'In'.....meaning in union with

PERSON....God is a real person

Incarnation

Father & Son

Trinity

Body, soul and spirit (of God)

Invisibility of God

2. True interpretation of God as Spirit, Jn 4:24

Omnipresent

Omniscient

Omnipotent

Existence of God

Attributes of God

Biographical material on Finis Dake:

Finis J. Dake

Born in 1902, Finis Dake rejected Christianity until age 17. In May of 1920, Dake received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Dake was called to the ministry and became aware of a newfound ability—he could quote hundreds of scriptures although he had only read a little of the Bible. Later, as Dake began to study the Bible, this spiritual total recall would make it possible for him to memorize volumes of scripture, learn Greek and Latin, and author a reference Bible titled, **DAKE'S ANNOTATED REFERENCE BIBLE**. Dake's "gift of memory" did not extend to other areas and according to his wife Dorothy, Dake had a poor memory when it came to domestic things.

At 24 years of age, Dake completed Bible school and was ordained an Assemblies of God minister. After serving as an evangelist for three years, Dake became a pastor and eventually the founder and president of the Great Lakes Bible Institute in Zion, Illinois. When challenged to quote the entire New Testament, Dake quoted from Matthew through Revelation giving chapters and verses while seated in a department store window and broadcasting over a local radio station.

Dake felt that he was called and prepared by God to undertake the monumental task single-handedly annotating the Bible. Dake spent 43 years and more than 100,000 hours searching the scriptures, Bible texts, and secular history to compile a study Bible which outlines all the books in the Bible, contains a half million cross references throughout 35,000 notes and comments, and is compatible with evangelical, Pentecostal, and charismatic beliefs. During this arduous undertaking, Dake's guiding principle was to "take the Bible literally wherein it is at all possible; if symbolic, figurative or typical language is used, then look for the literal truth it tends to convey".

Having taught himself the Greek and Latin meanings of every word in the Scriptures, along with the opinions of various scholars, Dake accomplished most of his work while pastoring a church and teaching at his Bible college. After dinner, Dake would begin work, often continuing throughout the night.

Near the completion of this great work, Dake made a naive error that cost him six months in jail and his ministerial affiliation. While traveling home from a meeting, Dake picked up a hitchhiker and in his zeal to lead her to salvation, transported the 16-year old runaway girl across state lines. Her parents pressed charges and Dake pleaded guilty to violating the Mann Act. Dake's wife and church remained loyal during what his lawyer called an "unfortunate mistake," and Dake became licensed with another denomination. What the devil had meant for harm, however, provided Dake the opportunity to finish, uninterrupted, the DAKE'S ANNOTATED REFERENCE BIBLE-a legacy that has blessed many since his death in 1987.

In closing, I hope you have enjoyed this basic overview of God - the Spirit.

Personally, I go over the verses again and again describing our wonderful Godthere is none like Him in the heavens above or the earth below.

Feel free to print off and use this material in teaching others.

My prayer for you:

Father,

I pray for each person who is reading or has read through this material in order to get better acquainted with You. Let them be caught up in the wonder of Your Person and the glory of Your Being. Help them to relate to You as a spirit themselves: Spirit to spirit communion, in Jesus' Name I pray,

Amen.



For a course completion certificate, please write a 2 page (single space) of what you are taking away from this course. Include something from each of the five chapters. I also would appreciate any other comments or suggestion you may have for further materials.

Send your completed essays to: annwindsor8@gmail.com.

