

A PORTRAIT OF THE FATHER
A Devotional Scripture Study Of the Father

By

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Forward

This study has minimal narrative other than scripture. It is designed to be a "portrait" of the Father in telling not only about the Father, but the story of the Father Who lost His family, and then worked to regain it through His Son, Jesus, in Whom we also see the Father as Redeemer, Servant of His creation.

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Chapter 1

The Father As a Father

The Father is definitely a "family man" as His name indicates.

But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. Isaiah 43:1

Doubtless thou art our father...Thou, O Lord, art our father, our redeemer; thy name is from everlasting. Isaiah 63:16

But now, O Lord, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand. Isaiah 64:8

For whosoever shall do the will of my (Jesus') Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother. Matthew 12:50

And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven. Matthew 23:9

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: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. John 1:12, 13

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. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? 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. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. John 3:3-6

For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father... 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. Romans 8:15, 29

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

For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is

named... There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. Ephesians 3:14, 15, 4:4-6

But we see (the Father's love in) Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God (the Father) should taste death for every man. For it became him (the Father), for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation (Jesus) perfect through sufferings. For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one (Father): 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. (also Psalm 22:22) And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, Behold I and the children which God (the Father) hath given me (also Isaiah 8:18) Hebrews 2:9-13

Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits and live? Hebrews 12:9

Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. James 1:18

(A)nd truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. 1 John 1:3

Chapter 2

The Father is Near and Loving, and Holy

The Father "God is a Spirit..." (John 4:24), not flesh and blood (Matthew 16:17), and He is near.

Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? Psalm 139:7

Am I a God at hand, saith the Lord, and not a God afar off? Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the Lord. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the Lord. Jeremiah 23:23, 24

Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. And the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value (to your Father) than many sparrows. Matthew 10:29-31

And heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you, said Jesus. Luke 10:9

God, who made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: For in him we live, and move, and have our being...For we are his offspring. Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device. Acts 17:24-29

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight:but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do. Hebrews 4:12, 13

Although He is near, He is a God of separation from sin and its death (Romans 5:2, James 1:15), as in the garden God said

the day of disobedience is the "day thou shalt surely die." Genesis 2:17. "Can two walk together except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3). Adam and Eve, after the fall, being in a disagreeable state of disagreement, hid themselves amongst the trees and did not walk with the Lord God in the garden. Genesis 3:8. The New Testament story of grace includes this concept of separation unto God and obedience to His truth, as did the Old Testament. The "Lord God omnipotent reigneth" (Revelation 19:6), but not all works are the works of the Father. His gift of salvation from sin was through the Son, Who "endured such contradiction of sinners against himself... (and) resisted unto blood, striving against sin." Hebrews 12:3, 4. The Father is not the author of sin, but rather the Giver of good gifts. His nearness and His love are tied up with His holiness.

Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Matthew 4:4, quoted by Jesus from Deuteronomy 8:3

For I am the Lord your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy: for I am holy... For I am the Lord that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt (sin and bondage), to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy. ..for I the Lord, which sanctify you, am holy. Leviticus 11:44,45, 21:8

In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee. Behold, they shall surely gather together, but not by me: whosoever shall gather together against thee shall fall for thy sake. Isaiah 54:14, 15

I have spread out my hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which walketh in a way that was not good, after their own thoughts. Isaiah 65:2

Because they have forsaken me, and have estranged this place, and have burned incense in it unto other gods, whom neither they nor their fathers have known, nor the kings of Judah, and have filled this place with the blood of innocents; They have built also the high places of Baal, to burn their sons with fire for burnt offerings unto Baal, which (sin) I commanded not, nor spake it, neither came it into my mind. Jeremiah 19:4, 5, see also 32:35

If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him? Matthew 7:11

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? Luke 11:13

Sanctify them through thy truth (Father, John 17:1): thy word is truth, prayed Jesus. John 17:17; also Jude 1, "them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called."

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. Acts 10:38

For the kingdom of God (a holy kingdom, separate from sin) is not meat and drink.. but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. Romans 14:17

Be ye not unequally yoked together 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

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14

According as he hath chosen us in him (Jesus, "declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead," Romans 1:4) before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love. Ephesians 1:4

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord. Hebrews 12:14

Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. Do not err, my beloved brethren. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. James 1:13-15

But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for

I am holy. 1 Peter 1:15, 16

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. 1 John 1:5-7

Chapter 3

Knowing the Father

It is possible to learn of, to know, the Father. Persecution of the faithful is "because they have not known the Father, nor me (Jesus)." John 16:3

It is written in the prophets (Isaiah 54:13, Jeremiah 31:34), And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me (Jesus). Not that any man hath seen the Father, save he (Jesus) which is of God, he hath seen the Father (and "I know him," the Father, said Jesus, John 7:29, 8:55). Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life (from the Father, who is God, "even from everlasting to everlasting," Psalm 90:2). John 6:45-47

I have many things to say and to judge of you (said Jesus): but he that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him. They understood not that he spake to them of the Father. Then said Jesus unto them. When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as the Father hath taught me, I speak these things. And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him... I speak that which I have seen with my Father... John 8:26-29, 38

He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak. John 12:48-50

It is in learning of God and knowing Him that we are to "glory."

Thus saith the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord which exercise lovingkindness, judgment and righteous in the earth (by causing Jesus "the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in

the land," Jeremiah 3:15): for in these things I delight, saith the Lord. Jeremiah 9:23, 24

But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. 2 Corinthians 10:17

For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt (sin and bondage): because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away. Hebrews 8:8-13

Since the Father is not visible to us, His portrait in scripture is largely one of the picture of Him we see in Jesus, our knowing Him in His Holy Spirit, and in His works. His works are in exercising "lovingkindness, judgment and righteousness in the earth" (Jeremiah 9:24, above) through Jesus, the Branch of righteousness (Jeremiah 33:15). Jesus said, "I go my way to him (the Father, John 16:3, 10), and now the Holy Spirit, another Comforter, is to "reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." John 16:8. The Holy Spirit is to "glorify me (Jesus): for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you." John 16:14, 15. Knowing the Father through the Son, the Holy Spirit, and the works are closely related, intertwining concepts, as we see from these scriptures.

And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: and lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Matthew 3:16, 17

Again I (Jesus) say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three

are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. Matthew 18:19, 20

And (the resurrected) Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. Matthew 28:18-20

For he whom God (the Father) hath sent speaketh the words of God (that are spirit and life, John 6:63): for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him (Jesus). The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hands." John 3:34, 35, see also 8:26

Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake. John 14:10, 11

But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me. John 15:26

How God (the Father) anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him (Jesus). Acts 10:38

Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord but by the Holy Ghost. (God the Father made Jesus both Lord and Christ, the anointed One, and did His works "by him", Jesus; Acts 2:22, 33, 36, 3:13). Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord (Jesus). And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God (the Father) which worketh all in all... For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized 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 ("the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father," John 15:26, and is the "Spirit of God" Matthew 12:28, and the "Spirit of your Father," Matthew 10:20, while also the "Spirit of Jesus Christ," Philippians 1:19, and the "Spirit of his Son (Whom God sent) into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father." Galatians 4:6). 1 Corinthians 12:3-6, 12, 13

For in him (Jesus) dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily (Colossians 2:9), and so this Jesus said, But if I cast out devils (and so heal the blind, dumb man) by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you. Matthew 12:28

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. 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 1:2-5

Jesus said, "I am come in my Father's name," (John 5:43; "I AM THAT I AM", Exodus 3:14), but John said "these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." John 20:31. It was "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth" (Acts 3:6), through "faith in his (Jesus') name" (Acts 3:16), Jesus whom "God hath raised from the dead" (Acts 3:15) that there was the healing of the lame man at the gate called Beautiful. It was in this work that "The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus..." Acts 3:13. John 14:23 states "we (the Father and Son) will come unto him, and make our abode with him," the one who loves the Son and keeps His words, the words the Son received of the Father. In His High Priestly prayer, Jesus said "this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God (the Father, John 17:1), and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent." John 17:3. There is but one "kingdom of Christ and of God." Ephesians 5:5. See also Rev. 11:15. "(T)he things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus" (Acts 8:12) is one preaching. When the work is complete, "Then cometh the end, when he (Jesus) shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father, when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. 1 Corinthians 15:24

Chapter 4

Knowing the Father Through the Son

No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son (Jesus, "whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world...", John 10:36), which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him. John 1:18

The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand. He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. John 3:34, 36

Verily, verily, I (Jesus) say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. John 5:24

Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed. John 6:27

And yet if I (Jesus) judge, my judgment is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me. It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true. I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me. Then said they unto him, Where is thy Father? Jesus answered, Ye neither know me, nor my Father: if ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also... I have many things to say and to judge of you: but he that sent me is true: and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him. They understood not that he spake to them of the Father...I speak that which I have seen with my Father...John 8:16-19, 26, 27, 38

I and my Father are one, said Jesus. John 10:30, also 17:11, 21-23

If I (Jesus) do not the works of my Father, believe me not. But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him. John 10:37, 38

Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me. I am come a light unto the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. John 12:44-46

Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God... He that

receiveth whomsoever I send receiveth me; and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. John 13:3, 20

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life.. no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. John 14:6-14

Henceforth I (Jesus) call you not servants, for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. John 15:15

He that hateth me hateth my Father also. If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father. John 15:23, 24

And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are... Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. 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 17:11, 20-23

And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam (Jesus) was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have

borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God: neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. 1 Corinthians 15:45-50

But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. For God (the Father), who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature. Colossians 1:12-15

Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his (the Father's) person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high. Hebrews 1:3

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life (Jesus, John 1:1): (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. 1 John 1:1-3

Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: but he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also. John 2:23

Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat (the Father) loveth him also that is begotten of him (Jesus). By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God (the Father)? This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not

by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth. For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word (Jesus), and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one (Jesus is God, yet the Father is His God, John 1:1, 20:17, Hebrews 1:8, 9). And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one (as to Jesus Sonship and manhood). If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God (the Father) which he hath testified of his Son. He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life ("which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began... God our Saviour;...God the Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour," Titus 1:2, 3) and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life: and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. 1 John 5:1-13

And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his (the Father's) Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. 1 John 5:20

....The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. Revelation 11:15

Chapter 5

Knowing the Father in His Holy Spirit

The Father's Spirit is also the "Spirit of Jesus Christ" (Philippians 1:19, also Galatians 4:6), and the "Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father." Romans 8:15

And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my (Jesus') sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. Matthew 10:18-20

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... 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. John 14:15-21, 23, 24

But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me. John 15:26

This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this (Pentecost), which ye now see and hear. For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, the Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, Until I make thy foes thy footstool. Acts 2:32-35

For ye have not received the Spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our Spirit, that we are the children of God. Romans 8:15, 16

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 (to the Father) for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. Romans 8:26, 27

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. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. 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. 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. 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. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. 1 Corinthians 2:9-14 (also John 5:23,24, "God (the Father) is a Spirit," and John 3:6, "that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.")

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits: to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart (where God promised to write the new covenant, Hebrews 8:10, 10:16). For such trust have we through Christ to Godward: Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God. 2 Corinthians 3:35

Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty (in the sense of life as the Father and Son have life). 2 Corinthians 3:17

For we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. 2 Corinthians 4:7

And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ. Galatians 4:6, 7

In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise. Ephesians 1:13

For through him (Jesus) we both (Jew and Gentile) have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Ephesians 2:18

For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also give unto us his Holy Spirit. 1 Thessalonians 4:7, 8

Or, do you think that the scripture says in an empty manner and to no purpose, The Spirit (Holy Spirit) who has been caused to make His permanent home in us has a passionate desire (to control us) to the point of envy (of any control indwelling sin may have over us)? Moreover, He (the Holy Spirit) gives greater grace. For this reason (in conformity with this) He (the Holy Spirit) says, God sets himself in battle array against the arrogant and haughty but gives grace to the humble and lowly. James 4:5, 6, Wuest translation and his parenthetical inserts.

The Holy Spirit "proceedeth from the Father..." John 15:26, also 14:16 where Jesus says "I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter..." In John 15:26, Jesus also said "I will send (the Comforter) unto you from the Father...", and Acts 2:33 says "(Jesus) being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this..."

Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit. 1 John 4:13

Chapter 6

Knowing the Father By His Works

The Father has a history. The Father is known by His works through Jesus. "Even a child (so moreso the Father) is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right." Proverbs 20:11

Creation

But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect. Matthew 5:44-48

(The Father is) the living God, which made (by Jesus, John 1:1-3, Colossians 1:16, 17, Hebrews 1:2, and with the Spirit, Genesis 1:1, 2, 26) heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein; Who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways. Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness. Acts 14:15-17

Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse. Romans 1:19, 20

(With an unruly, evil tongue) bless we God, even the Father: and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. James 3:9

Jesus' Works

But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work. Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God. Then answered Jesus and

said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel. For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will. John 5:17-21. Jesus' healing work was challenged as breaking the sabbath, but issues of priority arise, and Jesus fulfilled the law in following the higher concept of healing, akin to the concept of don't die but rather choose life and blessing. Deut. 30:19

But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me. And the Father himself, which hath sent me hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape. John 5:36, 37

I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. John 9:4

Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me. John 10:25

Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me?... If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe that the Father is in me, and I in him. John 10:32, 37, 38

Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God; He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded (in demonstration of the Father's care as Servant of His creation). John 13:3-5. Compare Psalm 93 (the Lord girds Himself with strength.)

Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake. Verily, verily I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. John 14:10-14

I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do... And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them. John 17:4, 26

Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know. Acts 2:22

Believers' Works

Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about..., I (Paul) have fully preached the gospel of Christ. Romans 15:19

Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost... full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people. Acts 6:5, 8

How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him. God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will? Hebrews 2:3, 4

Healing (Also Above)

I am the Lord that healeth thee. Exodus 15:26

When the even was come, they brought unto him (Jesus) many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses. Matthew 8:16, 17, Isaiah 53

And heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you. Luke 10:9

In that hour (of the healings by the seventy sent by Jesus) Jesus rejoiced in spirit ("this rejoicing being energized by the Holy Spirit," Wuest translation), and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight. Luke 10:21

The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus (in healing the lame man at the gate called Beautiful). Acts 3:13

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. Acts 10:38

Chapter 7

The Father's Role in the Cross Of Jesus

Jesus was alone as sin-bearer on the cross when He said, "My God, my God (repetition may refer to the Father and Holy Spirit), why hast thou forsaken me?" Mark 15:34. See also Hebrews 1:3. Yet the Father had a very definite role in the work of the cross.

And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering. Genesis 22:8. Jesus is the lamb of God. Isaiah 53:7, John 1:29, Acts 8:26-39, 1 Corinthians 5:7, Revelation 5:6.

Behold my servant (Jesus), whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. Isaiah 42:1

Thou hast brought me no sweet cane with money, neither hast thou filled me with the fat of thy sacrifices: but thou hast made me to serve with thy sins, thou hast wearied me with thine iniquities. I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins. Isaiah 43:24, 25

Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high (fulfilled, Acts 2:33, 5:31, Phil. 2:9, Hebrews 1)... (A)nd the Lord hath laid on him (Jesus) the iniquity of us all.. Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him: he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed (born again, spiritual children), he shall prolong his days (the resurrection is discussed in the next chapter) and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. He shall see of the travail of his soul and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and He was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession (with the Father Who always hears His Son, John 11:42) for the transgressors. Isaiah 52:13, 53:6, 10-12

And he (Jesus) saith unto them (His disciples), My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch. And he went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. And he said, Abba, Father (as adopted children address the Father, Romans 8:15, Galatians 4:6), all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what

thou wilt. Mark 14:35-36

(Jesus) Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done. Luke 22:42

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. John 3:16-18

I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not my own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me. John 5:30

And Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world... For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day... No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day... I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. John 6:32, 33, 38-40, 44, 51

Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. John 8:42

No man taketh it from me, but I lay it (my life) down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father. John 10:18

(I)f any man serve me, him will my Father honour. Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I (Jesus) say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause (of sacrifice unto death on the cross) came I unto this hour. Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have glorified it, and will glorify it again. John 12:26-28

But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do. John 14:31

If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. John 15:10

Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye (the disciples) shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me. John 16:32

Then said Jesus (in the garden where He was arrested) unto Peter, Put up thy sword into the sheath: the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it? John 18:11

Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain. Acts 2:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God (the Father) is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord (whom God made both Lord and Christ, Acts 2:36). Romans 6:23

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. 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. What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us (with the Father). Romans 8:28-34

For he hath made him (Jesus, who said I lay down My life "of myself", but according to the commandment received of My Father, John 10:18) to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. 2 Corinthians 5:21; see also Galatians 3:13, Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us.

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man (so grace and peace are also attributed to Jesus; John 1:17, 1 Corinthians 16:28, 2 Corinthians 1:2, 13:14, Galatians 6:18, Ephesians 1:2, 2 John 3). For it became him (the Father), for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation (Jesus) perfect

through sufferings. Hebrews 2:10

In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins... And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. 1 John 4:9, 10, 14

(Jesus) Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father; Galatians 1:4

And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. Revelation 7:10

And there shall be no more curse; but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him. Revelation 22:3

Chapter 8

The Father's Role in Jesus' Resurrection

Even Jesus prayed to the Father for salvation, having assumed our burden of death for sin, yet He knew He came from and would return to the Father.

Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power (authority from the Father) to lay it down, and I have power (authority) to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father. John 10:17, 18. See also John 2:18-22 (challenge to Jesus' authority met with a declaration that the resurrection would prove his authority.)

(W)hen Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end. John 13:1

Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I. John 14:28

But now I go my way to him (my Father, John 16:10) that sent me... For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God. I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father. John 16:5, 27, 28

Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God. John 20:17

God the Father, who raised him (Jesus) from the dead. Galatians 1:1. See also Acts 4:10.

(Jesus) Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it. Acts 2:24, also verses 25-27, 32, 3:15, 5:30, 10:40, 17:30, 31, Romans 6:4, 10:9, 1 Corinthians 15:15, 2 Corinthians 4:14, Ephesians 1:17, 20, Hebrews 5:5-7, 13:20, 1 Peter 3:18, Revelation 1:15, compare John 2:19, 10:18

But unto the (resurrected) Son ("the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God," John 1:1), he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom (the Father's and Christ's kingdom is one

kingdom, 1 Corinthians 15:24, Galatians 4:6, Ephesians 5:5, Revelation 11:15). Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. Hebrews 1:8, 9

And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron. So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest: but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. And he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. Who in the days of his flesh, when he (Jesus) had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared: Though he were a Son... Hebrews 5:4-8

Chapter 9

The Father's Role in Our Salvation

The Father worked with the Son the work of the cross and raised Jesus from the dead, and on Jesus' life and resurrection depends our life.

The Lord is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked (Nahum 1:3), and all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also... (B)ecause I live, ye shall live also. John 14:1-3, 19

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he (the Father) hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved (Jesus). In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace. Ephesians 1:3-7

And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. Ephesians 4:32

And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead: that in all things he might have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in him (Jesus) should all fulness dwell. Colossians 1:17, 18

As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of

the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God (the Father), who hath raised him from the dead. And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his (Jesus') cross. Colossians 2:6-14

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. 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. 1 Peter 1:3

Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne; And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness (of the Father), and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. Revelation 1:4-6

And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I (Christ) give power over the nations: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father (Who is the head of Jesus, as Jesus is the head of the man, 1 Corinthians 11:3). Revelation 2:26, 27

Behold I (the resurrected Christ) stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. Revelation 3:20, 21

The Father stays at home in His kingdom of life and truth, and does not enter the kingdom of sin and death. Romans 8:2. Jesus was raised to His Father's kingdom, "crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man (Hebrews 2:9)." Tasting death is not ascribed to the Father Who stayed in the kingdom of life and resurrected His Son Jesus to that kingdom, so that "adopted children" (Romans 8:15) could also partake of the kingdom of life as the Father has life. This is reminiscent of the father who stayed home in the story of the prodigal son, waiting for his son to become "alive again."

(T)he Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore. Psalm 133:3

I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee. And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants; And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. But the father said to his servants. Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it: and let us eat, and be merry.. For this my son was dead, and is alive again: he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry. Luke 15:18-24

In him (Jesus) was life; and the life was the light of men. John 1:4

For as the Father hath life in himself: so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself. John 5:26

I am the bread of life... As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me.. It is the spirit (Spirit) that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life. John 6:48, 57, 63

I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh to the Father, but by me, said Jesus. John 14:6

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. 2 Corinthians 5:21

That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 5:21

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death....But if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of him (the Father) that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. Romans 8:2, 10, 11

(God) Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began

(God promised eternal life "before the world began," Titus 1:2). But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. 2 Timothy 1:9, 10

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. Revelation 21:4

The Father gave us this life in Jesus by giving us to Jesus. In Jesus' High Priestly prayer of John 17, Jesus says again He gives eternal life to those whom He was given. There are seven references in this chapter of John to the Father giving us to Jesus.

(T)hat he should give eternal life to as many as thou (Father) hast given him (Jesus)...(M)en which thou gavest me... (T)hou gavest them me...(T)hem which thou hast given me... (T)hose whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are... (T)hose that thou gavest me I have kept... (T)hey... which thou hast given me. John 17:2, 6, 9, 11, 12, 24

For I (Jesus) came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day. John 6:38-40

And I (Jesus) give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. John 10:28, 29

Chapter 10

The Father of the Bride and Bridegroom

Under the Old Covenant, there was a marriage to the law that brought forth the fruit of sin and death. Under the New Covenant, the Father gives us in marriage to Jesus the bridegroom (John 3:29) to bring forth fruit unto Himself.

Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God. For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death. But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter. What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet. But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin was dead. For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died. And the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death. For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me. Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good. Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful. For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin...There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus... For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh. That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit (of the Father and the Son). Romans 7:4-14, 8:1-4

He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom (John the Baptist, the speaker), which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled. He must increase, but I must decrease. He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all. And what he hath seen and heard, that he testifieth; and no man receiveth his testimony. He that hath received his testimony hath set to his seal that God (the Father

of the bride and the bridegroom) is true. For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God (the Father, John 8:28, 38, 12:49, 50): for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him. John 3:29-34

Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. Revelation 19:9

And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. Revelation 22:17.

The Spirit here speaking with the bride calling more to the marriage supper of the Lamb is typified by the servant of Abraham sent in Genesis 24 to bring a bride to Isaac, who in his miraculous birth and naming by God before his birth (Genesis 17), typified Jesus. The Spirit is said to be caused to indwell the believer in the Wuest translation of James 4:5, and so is a Servant. In this marriage as in that of Isaac, there is to be fruit, to the glory of the Father.

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. John 15:7, 8

But the fruit of the Spirit (of the Father and Son) is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law (because by the death of Jesus, we are no longer married to the law, but now are married to Jesus, Romans 7:4 above).

Chapter 11

The Faithfulness of the Father

The Father blesses us with eternal life through Christ and His Spirit, fulfilling the promise to Abraham.

And I will make of thee (Abram, Abraham) a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great: and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. Genesis 12:2, 3

Hosanna: Blessed is (Jesus) the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord (who "commanded the blessing, even life for evermore." Psalm 133:3). John 12:13

(C)oncerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever.
(Jesus is blessed of the Father forever.) Romans 9:5

For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Hebrews 2:16

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 (the Holy Spirit) from on high. Luke 24:49

And, being assembled together with them, (Jesus) commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. Acts 1:4, 5 (Jesus baptizes with the Holy Ghost and fire, Matthew 3:11, John 1:33)

Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and (Jesus) having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this (Pentecost), which ye now see and hear.
Acts 2:33

Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed (Genesis 12:3 above). So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham. For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them. But that no man is justified by the law

in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith. And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them. Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ: that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith...For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ (by the Spirit, 1 Corinthians 12:12, 13) 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. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise (of the Father). Galatians 3:7-14, 26-29

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us (who are "sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise," Ephesians 1:13) with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ. Ephesians 1:3

Chapter 12

The Father of Comfort and Joy

The Father's kingdom (which is also the kingdom of Christ) is to be a kingdom of blessing, as He told Abraham in Genesis 12:2,3: "I will bless thee (the Father starts the pendulum of blessing, in grace)...and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee.. and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." The Abrahamic covenant of the Father's blessing is an "everlasting covenant" (Genesis 17:19, 1 Chr. 16:17). This in no way contradicts but rather "dovetails" with the New Covenant. Galatians 3:8, Hebrews 8:10-13, 10:16-17, Revelation 14:6. Jesus, our mediator of the new, everlasting covenant, Hebrews 8:6, 10:29, 12:24, 13:20, is God blessed forever. Romans 9:5.

"The Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore." Psalm 133:3. Yet there is the problem of enduring the contrary until the end, when the Father will be "all in all" (last chapter), because all is not of the Father and His kingdom of blessing, which was even acknowledged in Genesis 12:3 where the Lord said He will "curse him that curseth thee..." Yet as children of God, we are to bless in all directions, all the time, just like the Father, Who comforts us while we endure what is contrary to His kingdom.

But I (Jesus) say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect. Matthew 5:44-48

Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing: knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. I Peter .3:8-10

Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort: Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. 2 Corinthians 1:3, 4

Even Job in his trials was comforted with revelation of a "daysman" or mediator between man and God (Jesus). Job complained, "Neither is there any daysman betwixt us (Job and God), that might lay his hand upon us both." Job 9:33. Jesus could do this as Divine Himself (John 1:1, Hebrews 1:8), yet man. The Messiah, the promised "kinsman redeemer" (Ruth 4), was prophesied to be a man. Jesus came as a man and was resurrected as a man.

He (the suffering servant the Father called "my servant", Isaiah 52:13) is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows...
Isaiah 53:3

Behold the man whose name is THE BRANCH...Zechariah 6:12

For I (Job) know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God (which Jesus promised to the pure in heart, Matthew 5:8); Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; Though my reins be consumed within me. Job 19:25-27

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. 1 Timothy 2:5. See also Philippians 2:6-8, Hebrews 2:14-16, 7:24, 8:3, 10:12, 1 John 4:2, 3

Job acknowledged his need for a redeemer, yet the Lord reminded Job that he was not God and could not save himself.

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said, Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? (Wisdom and understanding God gives, Job 38:36, quoted below, and is giving here.) Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me. Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy? Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb? When I made the cloud the garment thereof and thick darkness a swaddlingband for it. And brake up for it my decreed place, and set bars and doors, And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed? Hast thou commanded the morning...Job 38:1-12

Generally, Job was asked whether he could manage the universe,

and specifically whether he could solve the problem of death, and save himself.

Have the gates of death been opened unto thee? or hast thou seen the doors of the shadow of death?... Hast thou an arm like God? or canst thou thunder with a voice like him? Deck thyself now with majesty and excellency (see Psalm 93); and array thyself with glory and beauty. Cast abroad the rage of thy wrath: and behold every one that is proud, and abase him. Look on every one that is proud, and bring him low; and tread down the wicked in their place. Hide them in the dust together; and bind their faces in secret. Then will I also confess unto thee that thine own right hand can save thee. Job 38:17, 40:9-14

What God really wanted from Job was that he repent in "dust and ashes" (symbols of the completed sacrifice), which he did. Job 42:6. Yet he told Job to "gird up his loins like a man" (Job 38:3, 40:7), knowing he was not up to it "For he (God) is not a man, as I am, that I should answer him, and we should come together in judgment," said Job. Job 9:32. It is just like the Father to give us impossible things to do, but we are to see we're not able to do what only God can do. This is why God gave us the law, to drive us to Jesus, and marriage to a fountainhead of life rather than the law.

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 (the Father) 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.... Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. but where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: That as sin reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 3:23-26, 5:20, 21

It is in understanding the Father's work of grace through Jesus, this "fulness of the blessing (which is in the) gospel of Christ" (Romans 15:29), this "everlasting gospel" (Revelation 14:6) which was preached to Abraham (Galatians 3:8, John 8:56), that He becomes not only the Father of comfort, but the Father of joy, again through Jesus who prayed that His joy that He received of the Father be fulfilled in us.

(T)he joy of the Lord is our strength. Nehemiah 8:10

But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee. Psalm 5:11

Whereas thou hast been forsaken and hated, so that no man went through thee, I will make thee an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations... and thou shalt know that I the Lord am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob. Isaiah 60:15, 16

The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field, are withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men. Joel 1:12

Verily, verily, I (Jesus) say unto you, That ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy. A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world. And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you. And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full. John 16:20-25

(T)hou shalt make me (Jesus) full of joy with thy (the Father's) countenance. Acts 2:28

God, even thy God (the Father), hath anointed thee (Jesus) with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. Hebrews 1:9

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

And now come I (Jesus) to thee: and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy (which Jesus received from the Father, Acts 2:29, Hebrews 1:9 above) fulfilled in themselves. John 17:13

For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. Romans 14:17

That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God (in such knowledge we are to "glory", Chapter 3).

Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power,
unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; Giving
thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers
of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us
from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the
kingdom of his dear Son (wherein we partake of the Son's joy
given Him by the Father). Colossians 1:10-13

Chapter 13

The Father of Glory Is to Be Glorified in His Family

That the "God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory..." (Ephesians 1:17) is to be glorified in His people (who are to glory in their knowledge of the Father, Chapter 3) is a theme of the Old and New Testaments.

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me (a statement that speaks of the Father, the Spirit, and the Son, Matthew 3:16, Luke 4:18-20); 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. Isaiah 61:1-3

Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me (Jesus) and of my words (from the Father) in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels. Mark 8:38

(I)f any man serve me, him will my Father honour. Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause (of sacrifice unto death on the cross) came I unto this hour. Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have glorified it, and will glorify it again. John 12:26-28

And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. John 14:13

Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus: That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ also received us to the glory of God. Romans 15:5-7

To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen. Romans 16.27

And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:11

Those the Father "justified, them he also glorified." Romans 8:30. In John 17, Jesus prayed that the Father be glorified in the Son, and that the Son be glorified "in them." It is in this way (Jesus is the "way, the truth and the life," John 14:6) that the Father is to be glorified.

In God is my salvation (see Titus 1:3 and 4, which call both the Father and Jesus "Savior") and my glory... Psalm 62:7

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. Surely the isles shall wait for me, and the ships of Tarshish first, to bring thy sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, unto the name of the Lord thy God, and the Holy One of Israel, because he hath glorified thee... Thy people also shall be all righteous: they shall inherit the land for ever, the branch of my planting, that I may be glorified. Isaiah 60:1-3, 9, 21, a prophecy of the Millennium, but also true of the glorification of believers today as spiritual Israel, the seed of Abraham by faith. Galatians 3

(A)nd the nations shall bless themselves in him, and in him shall they glory. Jeremiah 4:2

Thus saith the Lord, let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord. Jeremiah 9:23, 24

In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood up and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.) John 7:37-39

Jesus answered, I have not a devil; but I honour my Father, and ye do dishonour me. And I seek not mine own glory: there is one that seeketh and judgeth. Verily, verily, I say unto you, if a man keep my saying, he shall never see death. Then said the Jews unto him, Now we know that thou hast a devil. Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and thou sayest, If a man keep my saying, he shall never taste of death.

Are thou greater than our father Abraham, which is dead? and the prophets are dead: whom makest thou thyself? Jesus answered, If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me: of whom ye say, that he is your God: Yet ye have not known him; but I know him: and if I should say, I know him not, I shall be a liar like unto you: but I know him (Whom I honour), and keep his saying. John 8:49-55

When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness (of Lazarus) is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby... Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God (in the raising of Lazarus). John 11:4, 40

Therefore, when he was gone out, Jesus said, Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God be glorified in him, God shall also glorify him in himself, and shall straightway glorify him. John 13:31, 32

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also: and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do (in people's lives), that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it... 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. John 14:12-14, 21

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples (the Father is glorified in Jesus' disciples)... Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. John 15:7, 8, 16

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you. A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me, because I go to the Father. And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you. And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may

be full. These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father. At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you: For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God. I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father. John 16:13-28

These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said. Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee...And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was... And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them... And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them. John 17:1, 5, 10, 26

The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his (resurrected) Son Jesus (in healing the lame man at the gate called Beautiful).. .And his name (God gave Jesus a name which is above every name, Philippians 2:9, and "he hath put all things under his feet. But... it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him." 1 Corinthians 15:27) through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given this perfect soundness in the presence of you all... Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth... whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. Acts 3:13, 16, 4:10

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. Acts 10:38

But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth. 2 Corinthians 10:17, 18

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. And unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen. Philippians 4:19, 20

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you. Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints. For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel; Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it, and

knew the grace of God in truth...(we) desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God (wherein we are to glory, Jeremiah 9:23, 24, such knowledge bearing fruit that glorifies the Father and the Son); Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who (the Father) hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature Colossians 1:2-6, 9-15

Chapter 14

The Father Is to Be "All in All"

The "living God" (Matthew 16:16, 26:63, Acts 14:15), the God of the living (Matthew 22:32), is to be glorified in His family, and be "all in all." 1 Corinthians 15:28

For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all. O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen. Romans 11:32-36; also Hebrews 2:10, speaking of the Father, "For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings."

But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him: and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him. 1 Corinthians 8:6

But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father (Who is the head of Christ as Christ is the head of man, 1 Corinthians 11:3): when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. (Compare Matthew 22:44, "The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool," apparently ascribing this work also to the Father, which is consistent with the principle of the Father and Son working together, "My Father worketh hitherto, and I work, which says in the Wuest translation, "My Father keeps on working until now, and as for myself, I also am continually working.") The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he (the Father) hath put all things under his (Jesus') feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he (the Father) is excepted, which did put all things under him. And when all things (contrary to the kingdom of the Father and Son) shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God (the Father) may be all in all. 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

The kingdom of the Father is "within you" (Luke 17:21), yet there is still an element of loneliness in the part of the Lord's prayer that laments, "thy kingdom come," a cry that will continue until the Father is "all in all."

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. Matthew 6:9-13

For 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 (when the Father is "all in all."). Revelation 21:3, 4.

