

THE TESTIMONIES THEMSELVES WILL BE THE KEY THAT WILL EXPLAIN THE MESSAGES GIVEN, AS SCRIPTURE IS EXPLAINED BY SCRIPTURE. Letter 73, 1903. {1SM 42.2}

#### QUOTE 1

The Power of God in the Third Person—The prince of the power of evil can only be held in check by the power of God in the third person of the Godhead, the Holy Spirit.—Special Testimonies, Series A, No. 10, p. 37.(1897). Ev 617.2

YOU NOTICE THAT IT'S THE POWER OF GOD IN THE THIRD PERSON SO AN ENTITY IS CARRYING A POWER OF ANOTHER ENTITY. BUT LET US EXPLORE FURTHER

1Jo:3:9: Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; FOR HIS SEED REMAINETH IN HIM: AND HE CANNOT SIN, because he is born of God.

1Jo:2:14: ... I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and THE WORD OF GOD ABIDETH IN YOU, AND YE HAVE OVERCOME THE WICKED ONE.

Joh:6:63: It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: THE WORDS THAT I SPEAK UNTO YOU, THEY ARE SPIRIT, and they are life.

2Co:3:17: Now THE LORD IS THAT SPIRIT: AND WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE Lord is, there is liberty.

Psalms:119:11: Thy WORD have I hid in mine heart, that I MIGHT NOT SIN against thee.

ARE YOU NOTICING HOW SIN COLD BE HELD IN CHECK?

**"Sin could be resisted and overcome only through the mighty agency of the third person of the Godhead, who would come with no modified energy, but in the fullness of divine power. {FLB 52.6}**

"Christ declared that after his ascension, he would send to his church, as his crowning gift, the Comforter, who was to take his place. This Comforter is the Holy Spirit,—the soul of his life, the efficacy of his church, the light and life of the world. WITH HIS SPIRIT CHRIST sends a reconciling influence and a power that takes away sin. {RH, May 19, 1904 par. 1}

"The Spirit was given as a regenerating agency, and without this the sacrifice of Christ would have been of no avail. The power of evil had been strengthening for centuries, and the submission of man to this satanic captivity was amazing. Sin could be resisted and overcome only through the mighty agency of the third person of the Godhead, who would come with no modified energy, but in the fulness of divine power. It is the Spirit that makes effectual what has been wrought out by the world's Redeemer. It is by the Spirit that the heart is made pure. Through the Spirit the believer becomes a partaker of the divine nature. CHRIST HAS GIVEN HIS SPIRIT AS A DIVINE POWER to overcome all hereditary and cultivated tendencies to evil, and to impress his own character upon the church. {RH, May 19, 1904 par. 3}

To the poor and oppressed and downtrodden of earth, Christ says, "If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, even the Spirit of truth, (**WHICH IS CHRIST FORMED WITHIN THE HOPE OF GLORY,**) whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not: but ye know him, for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless." {Ms24-1898}

The Lord is soon to come. We want that complete and perfect understanding which the Lord alone can give. **IT IS NOT SAFE TO CATCH THE SPIRIT FROM ANOTHER. WE WANT THE HOLY SPIRIT, WHICH IS JESUS CHRIST.** If we commune with God, we shall have strength and grace and efficiency. {Lt66-1894}

The only DEFENSE AGAINST EVIL IS THE INDWELLING OF CHRIST IN THE HEART THROUGH FAITH IN HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS. Unless we become vitally connected with God, we can never resist the unhallowed effects of self-love, self-indulgence, and temptation to sin.. {DA 324.1} – COLOSSIANS 1:27

1. "That Christ should manifest Himself to them, and yet be invisible to the world, was a mystery to the disciples. They could not understand the words of Christ in their spiritual sense. They were thinking of the outward, visible manifestation. They could not take in the fact that they could have the presence of Christ with them, and yet He be unseen by the world. They did not understand the meaning of a spiritual manifestation." The Southern Review- 09-13-98
2. The reason why the churches are weak and sickly and ready to die is that the enemy has brought influences of a discouraging nature to bear upon trembling souls. He has sought to shut Jesus from their view as the Comforter, as one who reproves, who warns, who admonishes them, saying, "This is the way, walk ye in it." Christ has all power in heaven and in earth, and He can strengthen the wavering, and set right the erring. He can inspire with confidence, with hope in God; and confidence in God always results in creating confidence in one another. {RC 21.3}

#### QUOTE 2

In Co-operation With the Three Highest Powers—We are to co-operate with the three highest powers in heaven,—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,—and these powers will work through us, making us workers together with God.—Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 7, p. 51. (1905). Ev 617.3

**“ There are three living persons of the heavenly trio; in the name of these three great powers--the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit-- those who receive Christ by living faith are baptized, and these powers will co-operate with the obedient subjects of heaven in their efforts to live the new life in Christ. . . . {SpTB07 63.2}”**

Before He left them, Christ gave His followers a positive promise that after His ascension He would send them the Holy Spirit. "Go ye therefore," He said, "and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father [a personal God] and of the Son [a personal Saviour], and of the Holy Ghost [sent from heaven to represent Christ]: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world" [Matthew 28:19, 20]. {12MR 260.2}

The conclusion many arrive at from a superficial reading is that “three living persons” must mean three separate individuals. We believe the study on what constitutes a person makes it very clear that Sister White was in fact using the word person when referring to the Spirit in a way contrary to the usual use of the word. Note the following:

“It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing; the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." Christ is not here referring to his doctrine, but to his person, the divinity of his character.” {E. G. White, Review and Herald, April 5, 1906 par. 12}

“Christ gives them the breath of His own spirit, the life of His own life. The Holy Spirit puts forth its highest energies to work in heart and mind.” {E. G. White, The Desire of Ages, p. 827}

What then comprises the heavenly trio? The heavenly “trio” consists of God the Father, His Son Jesus Christ, and their Holy Spirit which is sent to influence mankind to salvation. It is indeed a mystery but that is how God comes to you and I. The Spirit of Prophecy presents the heavenly trio thus:

“They have one God and one Saviour; and one Spirit--the Spirit of Christ--is to bring unity into their ranks.” {E. G. White, Testimonies Volume 9, p. 189}

“Christ tells us that the Holy Spirit is the Comforter, and the Comforter is the Holy Ghost, "the Spirit of truth, which the Father shall send in My name." ... This refers to the omnipresence of the Spirit of Christ, called the Comforter.” {E.G. White, Manuscript Releases Vol.14, p. 179}