

## The Holy Spirit – the Comforter

“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.””  
(Ellen G. White, *Review and Herald*, 26<sup>th</sup> August 1890, ‘The righteousness of Christ’)

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“When God's people take the position that they are the temple of the **Holy Ghost, Christ Himself abiding within**, they will so clearly reveal Him in spirit, words, and actions, that there will be an unmistakable distinction between them and Satan's followers.  
(Ellen G. White, MS. 100, 1902, *Notebook Leaflets*, page 79, ‘The church school question’)

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“As by faith we look to Jesus, our faith pierces the shadow, and we adore God for His wondrous love **in giving Jesus the Comforter.**”  
(Ellen G. White, *MR Volume 19*, No. 1405, ‘Excerpts from diary July 6th – 31st, 1892’)

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“**The Saviour is our comforter.** This I have proved Him to be.”  
(Ellen G. White, *July 16th 1892, Manuscript Releases Volume Eight* No. 548, ‘How Ellen White Bore Suffering’)

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“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.**” (Ellen G. White, *Letter 66, 1894 to E. W. Prescott*, April 10<sup>th</sup> 1894)

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“Christ is to be known by the blessed name of Comforter. “The Comforter,” said Christ to His disciples, “which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name...” (*Ellen G. White, Ms 7 1902, Typed January 28th 1902*)

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“I urge our people to cease their criticism and evil speaking, and go to God in earnest prayer, asking him to help them to help the erring. Let them link up with one another and with Christ. Let them study the seventeenth of John, and learn how to pray and how to live the prayer of Christ. He is the Comforter. He will abide in their hearts, making their joy full.” (*Ellen G. White, Review and Herald, 27th 1st 1903, ‘The meaning of God’s providences’*)

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“There is no comforter like Christ, so tender and so true. He is touched with the feeling of our infirmities. His Spirit speaks to the heart..... But no circumstances, no distance, can separate us from the heavenly Comforter. Wherever we are, wherever we may go, he is always there, one given in Christ's place, to act in his stead. He is always at our right hand, to speak soothing, gentle words; to support, sustain, uphold, and cheer. “(*Ellen G. White, Review and Herald, 26<sup>th</sup> October 1897, ‘Words of Comfort – No. 2*)

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“We turn from the picture of our shortcomings to behold the atonement made for us and we rejoice as we know that we may be clothed with Christ’s righteousness. In Him all fulness dwells. He has grace and pardon for every soul. As by faith we look to Jesus, our faith pierces the shadow, and we adore God for His wondrous love <in giving us Jesus the Comforter.>” (*Ellen G. White, Ms 20 1892, July 26<sup>th</sup> 1892*)

\*The text between the symbols < > was added by Ellen White in her own handwriting to the typewritten text after it was copied by her secretaries.

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“It is not essential for you to know and be able to define just what the Holy Spirit is. 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.” [John 14:26.] “I will pray the Father, and he shall send you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him; but ye know him, for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.” [John 14:16, 17.] **This refers to the omnipresence of the Spirit of Christ, called the Comforter**.”(Ellen G. White, letter 7 1891 to Brother Chapman June 11<sup>th</sup> 1891)

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“In giving His commission to His followers, Christ did not tell them they would be left alone. **He assured them that He would be near them. He spoke of His omnipresence in a special way.** Go to all nations, He said. Go, to the farthest portithon of the habitable globe, but know that My presence will be there....**The assurance of His abiding presence** was the richest legacy Christ could give His disciples ” (Ellen G. White, Ms 138 1897, December 2<sup>nd</sup> 1897, 'The Gospel')

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“The best recommendation you can carry with you of this school and its influence is a well-ordered life and a godly conversation. Wherever you may be, maintain the principles that you have been studying here. Wherever you go, carry on the good work of searching the Scriptures, **and the Lord Jesus will always be at your right hand to help you. He is a merciful high priest pleading in your behalf. He will send his representative, the Holy Spirit; for He says, "I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you. By the Spirit the Father and the Son will come and make their abode with you "** (Ellen G. White, Bible Echo 15<sup>th</sup> January 1893, 'The source of our strength')

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**"The Holy Spirit, which proceeds from the only begotten Son of God,** binds the human agent, body, soul, and spirit, to the perfect, divine-human nature of Christ.” (Ellen G. White, Review and Herald, 5<sup>th</sup> April 1906, 'The Word made Flesh')

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“None will keep the law of God unless they love Him who is the only begotten of the Father. And none the less surely, if they love Him, will they express their love and obedience to Him. **All who love Christ will be loved of the Father, and He will manifest Himself to them. In all their emergencies and perplexities, they will have a helper in Jesus Christ.**

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.”** (*Ellen G. White, Southern Watchman, 13<sup>th</sup> September 1898, ‘Christ’s representatives’*)

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“The Lord encourages all who seek Him with the whole heart. **He gives them His Holy Spirit, the manifestation of His presence and favor.** But those who forsake God in order to save their lives will be forsaken by Him. In seeking to save their lives by yielding the truth, they will lose eternal life.” (*E. G. White, Testimonies Volume 9, page 230, 1909*)

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“When he should ascend to the Father, then the Comforter which the Saviour promised to send would come. Jesus promised to **manifest himself through the Holy Spirit** to every individual who shall seek him and believe on him.” (*E.G. White, Signs of the Times, July 23, 1896, ‘Come unto me and drink’*)

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”At all times and in all places, in all sorrows and in all afflictions, when the outlook seems dark and the future perplexing, and we feel helpless and alone, the Comforter will be sent in answer to the prayer of faith. Circumstances may separate us from every earthly friend; but no circumstance, no distance, can separate us from the heavenly Comforter. Wherever we are, wherever we may go, He is always at our right hand to support, sustain, uphold, and cheer.

The disciples still failed to understand Christ's words in their spiritual sense, and again He explained His meaning. **By the Spirit, He said, He would manifest Himself to them.** "The Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things." (*Ellen G. White, Desire of Ages, pages 669- 670, 'Let not your heart be troubled'*)

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**"The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Christ,** which is sent to all men to give them sufficiency, that through His grace we might be complete in Him." (*Ellen G. White, Letter 11a 1894, to Captain Christiansen, January 2<sup>nd</sup> 1894*)

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"True faith and repose in God are always accompanied by the illuminations of the Holy Spirit, whose temple we are. **The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Christ, it is His representative.**" (*Ellen G. White, letter 18 1895 to J. O. Corliss, September 13<sup>th</sup> 1895*)

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**"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 His church." (*Ellen White, Desire of Ages, page 671, 'Let not your heart be troubled'*)

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"Those who believe the truth should remember that they are God's little children, that they are under His training. Let them be thankful to God for His manifold mercies and be kind to one another. **They have one God and one Saviour; and one Spirit -- the Spirit of Christ --** is to bring unity into their ranks." (*Ellen G. White, Special Testimonies, Series B No. 4 page 23, 'The publishing work at College View' 1905*)

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"Christ gave his followers a positive promise that after his ascension **he would send them his Spirit.**" (*Ellen G. White, Review and Herald, 26<sup>th</sup> October 1897, 'Words of comfort – No.2'*)

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“While He extends to all the world His invitation to come to Him and be saved, He commissions His angels to render divine help to every soul that cometh to Him in repentance and contrition, **and He comes personally by His Holy Spirit into the midst of His church.**” (Ellen G. White, Letter 2d 1892, December 23rd 1892 To the brethren at the General Conference)

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"I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you." **The divine Spirit that the world's Redeemer promised to send, is the presence and power of God.**" (Ellen G. White, Signs of the Times, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1891)

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“After His ascension He was to be absent in person; **but through the Comforter He would still be with them**, and they were not to spend their time in mourning.” (Ellen G. White, ‘The Desire of Ages’, page 277, ‘Levi – Matthew’)

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“The religion of Christ means much more than the forgiveness of sin. It means taking away our sins, **and filling the vacuum with the Holy Spirit**. It means divine illumination, rejoicing in God. It means a heart emptied of self, and blessed **with the abiding presence of Christ.**” (Ellen G. White, Bible Training School, 1<sup>st</sup> October 1908, ‘True Worship’)

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“God calls upon His people, many of whom are but half awake, to arouse, and engage in earnest labor, praying for strength for service. Workers are needed. **Receive the Holy Spirit, and your efforts will be successful. Christ's presence is what gives power.**” (Ellen G. White, The Central Advance, February 25<sup>th</sup> 1903, ‘Power for service’)

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“The work of the holy Spirit is immeasurably great. It is from this source that power and efficiency come to the worker for God; and the holy Spirit is the comforter, as the personal presence of Christ to the soul. He who looks to Christ in simple, childlike faith, is made a partaker of the divine nature through the agency of the holy Spirit.” (Ellen G. White, *Review and Herald*, 29<sup>th</sup> November 1892, see also Ms 43 1901)

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“Keep cheerful. Do not forget that you have a Comforter, the Holy Spirit, which Christ has appointed. You are never alone. If you will listen to the voice that now speaks to you, if you will respond without delay to the knocking at the door of your heart, "Come in, Lord Jesus, that I may sup with Thee, and Thee with me," the heavenly Guest will enter.... “What saith our Saviour? "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to 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." “When trials overshadow the soul, remember the words of Christ, remember that He is as an unseen presence in the person of the Holy Spirit, and He will be the peace and comfort given you, manifesting to you that He is with you, the Sun of Righteousness, chasing away your darkness.” (Ellen G. White, *Letter to Sis Wessels*, March 7<sup>th</sup> 1897)

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“The disciples returned to Jerusalem rejoicing, not that they were deprived of their Master and Teacher, for this was to them a cause for personal mourning rather than joy. But Jesus had assured them that he would send the Comforter, as an equivalent for his visible presence.” (Ellen G. White, *Spirit of Prophecy Volume 3* page 256, 1878)

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" The Unseen Helper.

The Lord Jesus, standing by the side of the canvassers, walking with them, is the chief worker. The Holy Guest by their side makes impressions in just the lines needed, if the worker recognizes Christ as the one who is with him to prepare the way. Thus the worker can move forward representing the sacred truth



he is handling, in the books he is finding a home for in families."  
(Ellen G. White, *Bible Echo*, September 18th, 1899)

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"Jesus comes to you as the Spirit of truth; study the mind of the Spirit, consult your Lord, follow His way." (Ellen G. White, Ms 8c 1891, 'Relationship of Institutional Workers' July 26<sup>th</sup> 1891)

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"Wherever you go, carry on the good work of searching the Scriptures, and the Lord Jesus will always be at your right hand to help you. He is a merciful high priest pleading in your behalf. He will send his representative, the Holy Spirit; for He says, "I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you." By the Spirit the Father and the Son will come and make their abode with you. There is no excuse for wavering or sinning." (Ellen G. White, *Bible Echo*, January 15th 1893, 'The Source of our strength')

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"While He extends to all the world His invitation to come to Him and be saved, He commissions His angels to render divine help to every soul that cometh to Him in repentance and contrition, and He comes personally by His Holy Spirit into the midst of His church. (Ellen G. White, letter 2d 1892 to brethren of the General Conference, December 23rd 1892)

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"The human agent, the seen instrument, is to preach the Word, and the Lord Jesus, the unseen, agency, by His Holy Spirit is to make the Word efficacious and powerful." (Ellen G. White, Letter 105, 1900 to Bro and Sis S. N. Haskell, July 4<sup>th</sup> 1900)

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"How few realize that Jesus, unseen, is walking by their side! How ashamed many would be to hear His voice speaking to them and to know that He heard all their foolish, common talk! And how many hearts would burn with holy joy if they only knew that the Saviour was by their side, that the holy atmosphere of His



presence was surrounding them, and they were feeding on the bread of life! How pleased the Saviour would be to hear His followers talking on His precious lessons of instruction and to know that they had a relish for holy things!" (Ellen G. White, *Counsels to Parents, teachers and Students*, page 342, 'Wordly Amusements')

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"Today no curious multitudes flock to the desert places to see and hear the Christ. His voice is not heard in the busy streets. No cry sounds from the wayside, "Jesus of Nazareth passeth by." Luke 18:37. Yet this word is true today. Christ walks unseen through our streets. With messages of mercy He comes to our homes. With all who are seeking to minister in His name, He waits to co-operate. He is in the midst of us, to heal and to bless, if we will receive Him." (Ellen G. White, *The Ministry of Healing*, page 107, 'Saved to serve')

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"The disciples rejoiced, not that they were deprived of their Master and Teacher, for this was to them a cause for personal mourning rather than joy; but Jesus had assured them that he would send the Comforter, as an equivalent for his visible presence." (Ellen G. White, *Bible Echo*, 1<sup>st</sup> August 1887, 'The Saviour Glorified')

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"Lift up Christ in His power in the person of the Holy Spirit. He is waiting for them to open the door and admit Him. His presence will thrill every nerve and muscle. Every organ will begin to perform its functions, and the whole man will be restored to spiritual soundness as he sees Christ by faith." (Ellen G. White, *Letter 59 1899 to Bro Haskell and Sis Tenney*, 29<sup>th</sup> March 1899)

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"Christ, through the operation of the Spirit, had His abiding place in each individual soul, and grace and peace were multiplied through the knowledge of the fact that they had a risen Saviour who made an atonement for every one who came to Him by faith." (Ellen G. White, *Ms 42 1895, diary*, 16<sup>th</sup> January 1895)

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“Pray for the presence of Christ with you in the sickroom, for you need His presence as the One who alone can relieve suffering humanity. He will speak through you words inspired by the Holy Spirit. The presence of Christ is everything to a physician.” (Ellen G. White, letter 124 1901 to Bro and Sis Sanderson September 1901)

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“When God’s people search the Scriptures with a desire to know what is truth, Jesus is present in the person of His representative, the Holy Spirit, reviving the heart of the humble and contrite ones.” (Ellen G. White, Ms 158 1898, December 7<sup>th</sup> 1898, The Gift of the Holy Spirit)

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“The joy of Christ was in many hearts that Sabbath afternoon. This, you must bear in mind, was a new experience for these dear souls lately come to the faith. We knew that the heavenly Guest was among us. We not only had the promise, “Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them,” but we had the assurance that Christ was behind this promise, and that although He was unseen by natural eyes, yet by faith we discerned the presence of our Saviour.” (Ellen G. White, Letter 23 1899 to Sis A E Wessels, February 6, 1899)

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“The Lord Jesus standing by the side of the canvassers, walking with them, is the chief worker. If we recognize Christ as the One who is with us to prepare the way, the Holy Spirit by our side will make impressions in just the lines needed.” (Ellen G. White, Manual for Canvassers, page 40, ‘The Canvasser a gospel worker’)

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“The revelation of Christ to John is a wonderful, dignified, exalted, solemn message. To present this message with decided emphasis, demands all the talents of capabilities that God has given to men.

When John received it, He was worked by the Holy Spirit, for Christ Himself came from heaven and told him what to write." (Ellen G. White, Ms 139, 1903, *'The Message of Revelation'*)

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"The incarnation of Christ, his divinity, his atonement, his wonderful life in heaven as our advocate, the office of the Holy Spirit,—all these living, vital themes of Christianity are revealed from Genesis to Revelation." (Ellen G. White, *Special Testimonies on Education*, page 235)

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"Jesus is waiting to breathe upon all his disciples, and give them the inspiration of his sanctifying spirit, and transfuse the vital influence from himself to his people. He would have them understand that henceforth they cannot serve two masters. Their lives cannot be divided. Christ is to live in his human agents, and work through their faculties, and act through their capabilities. Their will must be submitted to his will, they must act with his spirit, that it may be no more they that live, but Christ that liveth in them. Jesus is seeking to impress upon them the thought that in giving his Holy Spirit he is giving to them the glory which the Father has given him, that he and his people may be one in God." (Ellen G. White, *Signs of the Times* 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1892, *'Faith brings light'*)

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"Christ breathed on his disciples, and said, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost." This is the great gift of heaven. Christ imparted to them through the Spirit his own sanctification. He imbued them with his power, that they might win souls to the gospel. Henceforth Christ would live through their faculties, and speak through their words. They were privileged to know that hereafter he and they were to be one. They must cherish his principles and be controlled by his Spirit. They were no longer to follow their own way, to speak their own words. The words they spoke were to proceed from a sanctified heart, and fall from sanctified lips. No longer were they to live their own selfish life; Christ was to live in them and speak through them. He would give to them the glory that he had with the Father, that he and they might be one in God." (Ellen G. White, *General Conference Bulletin* October 1, 1899, *'Christ our*

example')

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“And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: Whosoever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whosoever sins ye retain, they are retained.” The Holy Spirit was not yet fully manifested; for Christ had not yet been glorified. The more abundant impartation of the Spirit did not take place till after Christ’s ascension. Not until this was received could the disciples fulfill the commission to preach the gospel to the world. But the Spirit was now given for a special purpose. Before the disciples could fulfill their official duties in connection with the church, Christ breathed His Spirit upon them.” (Ellen G. White, *Desire of Ages* page 805, ‘Peace be unto you’)

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“There I beheld Jesus, a great High Priest, standing before the Father. On the hem of His garment was a bell and a pomegranate, a bell and a pomegranate. Those who rose up with Jesus would send up their faith to Him in the holiest, and pray, "My Father, give us Thy Spirit." Then Jesus would breathe upon them the Holy Ghost. In that breath was light, power, and much love, joy, and peace.” (Ellen G. White, *Early Writings*, page 55 , ‘Experience and views’)

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“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.” If we are taught of God, we shall pray in conformity to his revealed will, and in submission to his will which we know not. We are to make supplication according to the will of God, relying on the precious word, and believing that Christ not only gave himself for but to his disciples. The record declares, “He breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost.” (Ellen G. White, *Signs of the Times*, October 3<sup>rd</sup> 1892, ‘Faith brings light’)

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“The greatness of God is to us incomprehensible. "The Lord's throne is in heaven" (Psalm 11:4); yet by His Spirit He is

everywhere present. He has an intimate knowledge of, and a personal interest in, all the works of His hand.” (Ellen G. White, *Education*, page 132, ‘Science and the Bible’, 1903)

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“The Bible shows us God in His high and holy place, not in a state of inactivity, not in silence and solitude, but surrounded by ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands of holy beings, all waiting to do His will. Through these messengers He is in active communication with every part of His dominion. By His Spirit He is everywhere present.” (Ellen G. White, *Ministry of healing*, page 417, ‘A true knowledge of God’)

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“The Spirit is freely given us of God if we will appreciate and accept it. And what is it? -- the representative of Jesus Christ. It is to be our constant helper. It is through the Spirit that Christ fulfills the promise, “I will never leave thee nor forsake thee.” (Ellen G. White, *Letter 38*, 1896, To S. N. Haskell, May 30, 1896)

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“The office of the Holy Spirit is to control all our spiritual exercises. The Father has given his Son for us that through the Son the Holy Spirit might come to us, and lead us unto the Father.” (Ellen G. White, *Signs of the Times*, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1892, ‘Faith brings light’)

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“It is through the Spirit that Christ dwells in us; and the Spirit of God, received into the heart by faith, is the beginning of the life eternal.” (Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages*, page 388, ‘The crisis in Galilee’)

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“In describing to His disciples the office work of the Holy Spirit, Jesus sought to inspire them with the joy and hope that inspired His own heart. He rejoiced because of the abundant help He had provided for His church. The Holy Spirit was the highest of all gifts that He could solicit from His Father for the exaltation of His

people. The Spirit was to be given as a regenerating agent, 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 men 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 fullness 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 His church." (Ellen G. White, *Desire of Ages*, page 671, 'Let not your heart be troubled')

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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." (Ellen G. White, *Special Testimonies for Ministers – No. 10*, page 37)

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"Christ determined to bestow a gift on those who had been with Him and on those who should believe on Him, because this was the occasion of His ascension and inauguration, a jubilee in heaven. What gift could Christ bestow rich enough to signalize and grace His ascension to the mediatorial throne? It must be worthy of His greatness and His royalty. Christ gave His representative, the third person of the Godhead, the Holy Spirit. This gift could not be excelled. The divine Spirit, converting, enlightening, sanctifying, would be His donation, because He would give all gifts in one.

On the Day of Pentecost Christ gave His disciples the Holy Spirit as their Comforter. It was ever to abide with His church." (Ellen G. White, *Ms 44, 1898, the Pearl of Great Price*, March 29<sup>th</sup> 1898)

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"The Lord instructed us that this was the place in which we should locate, and we have had every reason to think that we are in the right place. We have been brought together as a school, and we



need to realize that the Holy Spirit, who is as much a person as God is a person, is walking through these grounds, unseen by human eyes, that the Lord God is our Keeper and Helper. He hears every word we utter and knows every thought of the mind.”  
(Ellen G. White, Ms 66 1899, Talk at Avondale, March 25<sup>th</sup> 1899)

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“The Holy Spirit always leads to the written Word. The Holy Spirit is a person; for He beareth witness with our spirits that we are the children of God. When this witness is borne, it carries with it its own evidence. At such times we believe and are sure that we are the children of God. What strong evidence of the power of truth we can give to believers and unbelievers when we can voice the words of John, “We have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.”

The Holy Spirit has a personality, else He could not bear witness to our spirits and with our spirits that we are the children of God. He must also be a divine person, else He could not search out the secrets which lie hidden in the mind 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.”  
(Ellen G. White, Ms 20 1906, Typed February 6<sup>th</sup> 1906)

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“The Comforter that Christ promised to send after He ascended to heaven, is the Spirit in all the fulness of the Godhead, making manifest the power of divine grace to all who receive and believe in Christ as a personal Saviour. 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.” (Ellen G. White, *Special Testimonies, Series B No. 7, page 63, ‘Come out and be separate’*)

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“When on His resurrection day these disciples met the Saviour, and their hearts burned within them as they listened to His words;



when they looked upon the head and hands and feet that had been bruised for them; when, before His ascension, Jesus led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up His hands in blessing, bade them, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel," adding, "Lo, I am with you alway" (Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:20); when on the Day of Pentecost the promised Comforter descended and the power from on high was given and the souls of the believers thrilled **with the conscious presence of their ascended Lord** -- then, even though, like His, their pathway led through sacrifice and martyrdom, would they have exchanged the ministry of the gospel of His grace, with the "crown of righteousness" to be received at His coming, for the glory of an earthly throne, which had been the hope of their earlier discipleship? "(Ellen G. White, *Great Controversy*, page 350, 'Light Through Darkness')

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"Our sanctification is the work of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is the fulfilment of the covenant that God has made with those who bind themselves up with Him, to stand with Him, with His Son, and with His Spirit in holy fellowship. Have you been born again? Have you become a new being in Christ Jesus? **Then co-operate with the three great powers of heaven who are working in your behalf.** Doing this you will reveal to the world the principles of righteousness." (Ellen G. White, *Signs of the Times*, 19<sup>th</sup> June 1901, 'Christ's prayer for us')

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**"The Godhead was stirred with pity for the race, and the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit gave themselves to the working out of the plan of redemption."** (Ellen G. White, *Australasian Union Conference Record*, 1<sup>st</sup> April 1901, 'An important letter', see also *Review and Herald*, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1912, 'Sanitariums as centers of influence and training')

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"The Holy Spirit is the Comforter, in Christ's name. **He personifies Christ, yet is a distinct personality.** We may have the Holy Spirit if we ask **for it** and make it [a] habit to turn to and trust in God rather than in any finite human agent who may make

mistakes.” (Ellen G. White, Ms 93 1893, ‘Privileges and responsibilities of Sons of God’)

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“The Holy Spirit is a free, working, independent agency. The God of heaven uses his Spirit as it pleases him, and human minds and human judgment and human methods can no more set boundaries to its working, or prescribe as to the channel through which it shall operate, than they can say to the wind, "I bid you to blow in a certain direction, and to conduct yourself in such and such a manner.

Though we cannot see the Spirit of God, we know that men who have been dead in trespasses and sins, become convicted and converted under its operations.” (Ellen G. White, Review and Herald. 5<sup>th</sup> May 1896 ‘Operation of the Holy Spirit made manifest in the life’)

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“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.” (Ellen G. White, Ms 24 1898, February 22nd 1898)

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“Jesus is waiting to breathe upon all his disciples, and give them the inspiration of his sanctifying spirit, and transfuse the vital influence from himself to his people. He would have them understand that henceforth they cannot serve two masters. Their lives cannot be divided. Christ is to live in his human agents, and work through their faculties, and act through their capabilities. Their will must be submitted to his will, they must act with his spirit, that it may be no more they that live, but Christ that liveth in them. Jesus is seeking to impress upon them the thought that in giving his Holy Spirit he is giving to them the glory which the Father has given him, that he and his people may be one in God.” (Ellen G. White, Signs of the Times 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1892, ‘Faith brings light’)

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"It is not essential for us to be able to define just **what** the Holy Spirit is. Christ tells us that the Spirit is the Comforter, "the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father." It is plainly declared regarding the Holy Spirit that, in His work of guiding men into all truth, "He shall not speak of Himself." John 15:26; 16:13. 52

The nature of the Holy Spirit is a mystery. Men cannot explain it, because the Lord has not revealed it to them. Men having fanciful views may bring together passages of Scripture and put a human construction on them, but the acceptance of these views will not strengthen the church. Regarding such mysteries, which are too deep for human understanding, **silence is golden.**" (*Ellen G. White, Acts of the Apostles, pages 51-52, 'The Gift of the Holy Spirit'*)

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"The Lord gives to His workers talents which, sanctified by His Holy Spirit, will place them on vantage ground. None are at any time to yield to the temptation to draw about them a cloak of self-righteousness, so that the Comforter, the Holy Spirit of God, shall not be able, through the grace of Christ Jesus, **to enter their hearts**, softening them, and making them loving and compassionate in disposition. My brethren, let your hearts be humble and contrite. **Thus through an abiding Christ** you will become Christlike in character." (*Ellen G. White, Pacific Union Recorder, 26<sup>th</sup> July 1906, 'Words to Burden-Bearers'*)

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"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." (*Ellen G. White, Review and Herald, 19<sup>th</sup> May 1904, 'The Promise of the Spirit'*)

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"Christ's triumphant ascension to heaven was the signal that His followers were to receive the promised blessing. For this they were

to wait before they entered upon their work without the visible presence of their beloved Teacher. While He was yet with them, He commanded 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."

When Christ entered within the heavenly gates, He was enthroned, amid the songs of millions of angels. As soon as this ceremony was completed, the Holy Spirit descended upon His followers in rich currents according to Christ's promise, and they were no more orphans. How quickly Christ fulfilled His promise, and sent from the heavenly courts the guarantee of His love! After His inauguration, the Spirit came and Christ was indeed glorified, even with the glory which He had from all eternity with the Father. During His humiliation upon this earth, the Spirit had not descended with all its efficacy; and Christ declared that if He went not away, it would not come, but that if He went away, He would send it. It was a representation of Himself, and after He was glorified it was manifest." (*Ellen G. White, Signs of the Times, 17<sup>th</sup> 1899, 'The Promise of the Spirit'*)

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"Cumbered with humanity, Christ could not be in every place personally; therefore it was altogether for their advantage that He should leave them, go to His Father, and send the Holy Spirit to be His successor on earth. The Holy Spirit is Himself, divested of the personality of humanity, and independent thereof. He would represent Himself as present in all places by His Holy Spirit, as the Omnipresent." (*Ellen G. White, Letter 119 1896 to James Edson White and Emma White, February 18th 1895*)

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"Cumbered with humanity, Christ could not be in every place personally; therefore it was altogether for their advantage that He should leave them, go to His Father, and send the Holy Spirit to be His successor on earth. The Holy Spirit is Himself, divested of the personality of humanity, and independent thereof. Christ would represent Himself as present in all places by His Holy Spirit,—as the Omnipresent. "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall [although unseen

by you] teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. . . . Nevertheless, I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you that I go away, for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you.” (Ellen G. White, *British Present truth*, May 30<sup>th</sup> 1895 'The Eternal Prsence')

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“The Holy Spirit is Christ's representative, but divested of the personality of humanity, and independent thereof. Cumbered with humanity, Christ could not be in every place personally. Therefore it was for their interest that He should go to the Father, and send the Spirit to be His successor on earth. No one could then have any advantage because of his location or his personal contact with Christ. By the Spirit the Saviour would be accessible to all. In this sense He would be nearer to them than if He had not ascended on high.

"He that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him, and will manifest Myself to him." Jesus read the future of His disciples. He saw one brought to the scaffold, one to the cross, one to exile among the lonely rocks of the sea, others to persecution and death. He encouraged them with the promise that in every trial **He would be with them**. That promise has lost none of its force. The Lord knows all about His faithful servants who for His sake are lying in prison or who are banished to lonely islands. **He comforts them with His own presence**. When for the truth's sake the believer stands at the bar of unrighteous tribunals, **Christ stands by his side**. All the reproaches that fall upon him, fall upon Christ. Christ is condemned over again in the person of His disciple. When one is incarcerated in prison walls, Christ ravishes the heart with His love. When one suffers death for His sake, Christ says, "I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive forevermore, . . . and have the keys of hell and of death." Rev. 1:18. The life that is sacrificed for Me is preserved unto eternal glory.

At all times and in all places, in all sorrows and in all afflictions, when the outlook seems dark and the future perplexing, and we feel helpless and alone, the Comforter will be sent in answer to the prayer of faith. Circumstances may separate us from every earthly friend; but no circumstance, no distance, can separate us from the

heavenly Comforter. Wherever we are, wherever we may go, He is always at our right hand to support, sustain, uphold, and cheer.

The disciples still failed to understand Christ's words in their spiritual sense, and again He explained His meaning. By the Spirit, He said, He would manifest Himself to them. *(Ellen G. White, Desire of Ages, page 669-670, 'Let not your heart be troubled')*

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"When the Lord told Peter what to do, he turned and asked, "Lord, what shall this man do?" The Lord answered, "What is that to thee? follow thou me." How many are like Peter to-day? They are interested in the affairs of others, but they neglect their own duty. It is our business to follow Christ and then we can counsel others. What we want is individual religion, personal piety. **We want the Holy Spirit of Christ in our families.**" *(Ellen G. White, Review and Herald, 16<sup>th</sup> April 1899, 'Christ should be our counsellor')*

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"All who consecrate body, soul, and spirit to God's service will be constantly receiving a new endowment of physical, mental, and spiritual power. The inexhaustible supplies of heaven are at their command. **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.**" *(Ellen G. White, Testimonies Volume 6, page 306, 'Medical missionary work')*

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**"The influence of the Holy Spirit is the life of Christ in the soul. We do not now see Christ and speak to Him, but His Holy Spirit is just as near us in one place as another. It works in and through every one who receives Christ.** Those who know the indwelling of the Spirit reveal the fruits of the Spirit,—"love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith." *(Ellen G. White, The Bible Echo, 17<sup>th</sup> June 1901, 'Words of comfort')*

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"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." (*Ellen G. White, Review and Herald, 19<sup>th</sup> May 1904, 'The promise of the Spirit'*)

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"All professions of Christianity are but lifeless expressions of faith until Jesus imbues the believer with his spiritual life, which is the Holy Ghost." (*Ellen G. White, Spirit of Prophecy, Volume 3, page 242, 'Meeting of the brethren', 1878*)

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## **Christ the Spirit of God in the Old Testament (1 Peter 1:10-11)**

In all these [Old Testament] revelations of the divine presence the glory of God was manifested through Christ. Not alone at the Saviour's advent, but through all the ages after the Fall and the promise of redemption, "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself." 2 Corinthians 5:19. Christ was the foundation and center of the sacrificial system in both the patriarchal and the Jewish age. Since the sin of our first parents there has been no direct communication between God and man. The Father has given the world into the hands of Christ, that through His mediatorial work He may redeem man and vindicate the authority and holiness of the law of God. All the communion between heaven and the fallen race has been through Christ. It was the Son of God that gave to our first parents the promise of redemption. It was He who revealed Himself to the patriarchs. Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Moses understood the gospel. They looked for salvation through man's Substitute and Surety. These holy men of old held communion with the Saviour who was to come to our world in human flesh; and some of them talked with Christ and heavenly angels face to face.

Christ was not only the leader of the Hebrews in the wilderness—the Angel in whom was the name of Jehovah, and who, veiled in the cloudy pillar, went before the host—but it was He who gave the



law to Israel. [See Appendix, Note 7.] Amid the awful glory of Sinai, Christ declared in the hearing of all the people the ten precepts of His Father's law. It was He who gave to Moses the law engraved upon the tables of stone.

It was Christ that spoke to His people through the prophets. The apostle Peter, writing to the Christian church, says that the prophets "prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glory that should follow." 1 Peter 1:10, 11. It is the voice of Christ that speaks to us through the Old Testament. "The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." Revelation 19:10." (Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, Page 366, 'The Law and the Covenants')

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"The Saviour had spoken through all the prophets. "The Spirit of Christ which was in them" "testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow." 1 Peter 1:11." (Ellen G. White, *Desire of Ages*, page 234, 'The Kingdom of God is at hand')

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"Let us see to it that we study the words of Christ in both the Old and the New Testaments, and take heed that we be not agents who shall work to make of no effect the word of God by exalting the traditions and opinions of men." (Ellen G. White, *Signs of the Times* April 2<sup>nd</sup> 1896, 'Heart piety essential')

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"It was the Spirit of Christ that spoke through Enoch; that Spirit manifested, not alone in utterances of love, compassion, and entreaty; it is not smooth things only that are spoken by holy men. God puts into the heart and lips of His messengers truths to utter that are keen and cutting as a two-edged sword." (Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets* page 86, 'Seth and Enoch')

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