

“You will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place with a stringed instrument, a tambourine, a flute, and a harp before them; and they will be prophesying”  
(1 Sam. 10:5b).

Groups of prophets were instructed by Samuel, after Samuel there was an increase in prophecy, triggering the books of the Prophets.

### **Bible and the Spiritual Education,**

The School of Prophets.

By Fernando Castro-Chavez

“Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it” (Pr. 22:6), “O God, You have taught me from my youth; and to this *day* I declare Your wondrous works” (Ps. 71:17), “I have more understanding than all my teachers, for Your testimonies *are* my meditation” (Ps. 119:99)...

How many parents want the best education for their children? How many teachers should be providing the best education for their students? What about God and His perfect prototype for humanity? Jesus Christ is our prototype, the perfect teacher. First of all we need to acknowledge the natural limits of our rational brain and the solution of this provided by God through the completed sacrifice of His son Jesus Christ: The nine tools of the manifestation and the fruit with nine attributes of the gift of holy spirit.

The student of God’s Word needs to earnestly desire to understand God and His spiritual gift; as Proverbs says: “if you receive my words... incline your ear to wisdom, *and* apply your heart to understanding... if you cry out for discernment... If you seek her as silver... as *for* hidden treasures; Then you will... find the knowledge of God”! “Then you will understand righteousness and justice, Equity *and* every good path” (Pr. 2:1-5, 9).

The great educator Joseph Lancaster, the first one “*to show how, with the Bible as the sole text-book, the schoolmaster could teach the many great truths on which Christians are agreed... whereby the children of all denominations may, with perfect impartiality, be brought up together in the fear [the deep esteem] of the Lord and the knowledge of His Word*”<sup>1</sup>, wrote in his great 1805 book “***Improvements in Education***”: “*We look to the Holy Scriptures as dictated and written by Divine inspiration... Timothy knew the Scriptures from a child; and it would be well for this nation if all those of the rising generation herein, had been trained from their childhood in this blessed knowledge*” and that “*when obedience to the Divine precepts keeps pace with knowledge, in the mind of any man, that man is a Christian; and when the fruits of Christianity are produced, that man is a disciple of our Blessed Lord.*”

Jesus Christ said: “Keep asking, and it will be given you; keep seeking, and you will find; keep knocking, and it will be opened to you”, “If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how

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<sup>1</sup> p. 15 of Salmon, D. Joseph Lancaster. British and Foreign School Society, *Longmans*, 1904, 76 p. [Both free for now at *Google Books*]

much more will *your* heavenly Father give holy spirit to those who ask him?” (Lk. 11:9, 13). The “good things” of the parallel passage (Mt. 7:11) coming from God, are His gift of “holy spirit to those who ask”!

Jesus enjoyed saying the most with the least words as possible, for example, when he compressed the most important laws of the Old Testament: “Whatever you want people to do to you, so also do the same to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets” (Mt. 7:12), “**Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind [ , and with all your strength** (Mr. 12:30)]. This is the greatest and first commandment. And *the* second is like it: **Love your neighbor as yourself**. On these two commandments the whole Law hangs, and *also* the prophets” (Mt. 22:37-40).

Let’s search in the Old Testament for the first systematic teacher of prophecy: Samuel; within his school, prophecy increased tremendously. Samuel’s teacher Eli was a watered-down man spiritually; however, it was Eli with all his imperfections the one that understood, at the third time, that God was calling his apprentice Samuel, and told him to answer thus: ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant hears’ (1 Sam. 3:9)!

Samuel realized the tremendous lack of instruction in relation to how to recognize and proclaim God, His Word, and His Revelation. In the books of Samuel we learn twice about his “group of prophets”:

1) “You will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place with a stringed instrument, a tambourine, a flute, and a harp before them; and they will be prophesying” (1 Sam 10:5b). Here we learn the importance of a group to obtain confidence, learning by example of the more experienced, and of the use of musical instruments for inspiration; mentioned are the stringed ones, the percussive, and the wind instruments, and of their talking (declaim), and/or of singing at the rhythm of the music as a way to help proclaiming the Word of God, and to receive His Revelation! The next passage tells us of the vital role of Samuel as founder and promoter of the school of prophets:

2) “When they saw the group of prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing *as* leader over them, the spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied” (1 Sam. 19:20). Samuel was the founder and leader of that group of prophets, being David, the anointed King, one of its members. The spiritual power of the group, with their musical instruments, and their experience practicing prophecy, was so influential that the messengers sent by the evil King Saul to seize David, started themselves also to prophesy! This indicates that anyone with the proper instruction and/or environment is capable to prophesy. This is as simple as possible. Saul sent then two other sets of messengers, and all of them prophesied also! (1 Sam. 19:21). If three groups of not so good men with no previous experience were able to prophesy inspired and guided by the example of the prophets and of the spirit of God that they manifested, this indicates that certainly is very simple to be able to manifest prophecy once the instruction and/or example, and the full confidence is instilled in the novice, for him to start uttering words at the rhythm and with the guidance of the previous students based on the revelation of God present in His Scriptures. This needs to be the purpose and search of our lives: How to teach the fullness of the power of God today!

The most amazing thing is that Saul himself, with all his accumulated evils, including his deep desire to kill David, once he was in the presence of the spiritual influence of these holy men, “the spirit of God was upon him also” (1 Sam. 19:23), so he temporarily left out his clothing of King “and prophesied

before Samuel in like manner” (1 Sam. 19:24); opportunity that David took to escape, because Saul did not change at all his evil ways and his desires to kill David, not even after prophesying himself!

The fact that Saul and his men, being a very bad man, was also prophesying, reminds us that “God is no respecter of persons” (Acts 10:34b). Another no good man expressing some of the most beautiful statements regarding the coming Messiah was Balaam, a prophet hired to curse the wandering Hebrew nation; however, “God came to Balaam at night and said to him, “If the men come to call you, rise *and* go with them; but only the word which I speak to you—that you shall do”” (Nm. 22:20). The spirit of God revealed Balaam awesome things expressed by Balaam as rhyme, like a poem or a song, such as: “God is not a man, that He should lie” (Nm. 23:19a). Balaam also saw, coming out of the Hebrews, the promised Savior, and the astronomical prophecy that announced his arrival: “He bows down, he lies down as a lion; And as a lion, who shall rouse him?” (Nm. 24:9a), something already known from the early prophecy of Jacob in his death-bed related to his son Judah, ancestor of Jesus Christ (Gn. 49:9); Balaam also declared: “I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near; a star shall come out of Jacob [which is Israel]; a scepter shall rise out of Israel” (Nm. 24:17a), also a resonance of previous Scriptures (Gn. 49:10). It seems that Balaam had a good set of files related to earlier prophetic utterances in his head and their Scriptures from which the spirit of God selected for him what to speak in the form of beautiful prophetic poems.

So, these examples of Saul and Balaam prophesying, demonstrates that the spirit of God inspires and reveals truths, being manifested even by bad humans. These men are a reminder to us that truth itself is independent of the vessel, and that the song will be sung independently of the singer.

These examples also shows that we need to fill ourselves with the Word of God as much as possible to start prophesying; how? By starting repeating the words that appear in the books of the Bible (*i.e.*, for this age, Paul’s Epistles), and also those prophecies that are not yet fulfilled (Revelation, Daniel, etc.); however, we need to remember that a prophet is one that speaks for God, not necessarily predicting the future. As a matter of fact, some of the most amazing prophecies had to do with events of the past that had no other way to be known or that were overlooked at the time, only to be revealed through prophecy:

“How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer”, “for you have said in your heart: “I will ascend into heaven...” (Is. 14:12a-13a). Here, there was no other way to know about these things but by prophecy, by the direct Revelation of God, who saw the heart of Lucifer before his fall. And here is another: “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (Gn. 1:1), again, only God could have told us about that...

But also, the prophet brings comfort declaring the basic things related to God’s protection, of God’s care for His own, or expressing displeasure with the shameful actions of His people, and its consequences.

Are we to discard the prophetic words of Balaam because of his bad example as a human being? Certainly not! Today, we need to use more and more our spiritual discernment to do as they say, if it agrees with the Word and Revelation of God, but not as they do, if it doesn’t agree with God.

David was one of the prophetic disciples of Samuel, and he decided to transform his prophetic ministry into an art form by writing his Psalms, each one of them inspired by God and all of them filled with Inspiration and/or Revelation, and each of them with its own instrumentation, with its own rhythm. David, with the approval of God, even instructed a specific ministry of musicians to serve at the Temple and sing God's Word and God's Prophecy. In his Psalms David revealed things of the past of the Hebrews not to be seen anywhere else in the Bible, for example: "*there was none feeble among His tribes*" (Ps. 105:37b), when they departed Egypt; and "*do not take your holy spirit from me*" (Ps. 51:11b), where David revealed that after doing all his evil, he was afraid to lose the spirit of God, begging God not to do so. We saw that Saul had the spirit of God from time to time, until he indeed ended up without it: "the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul" (1 Sam. 16:14a), so that at the end of his life, instead of going to God, the deceived Saul consulted evil spirits for "advice" ["*there is a woman who is a medium at En Dor*" (1 Sam. 28:7b)], with one evil spirit impersonating the deceased Samuel, leading Saul directly to his death, and to the death of his son.

In the Old Testament, the spirit of God did come and did go from people; however, we know now that after the day of Pentecost, the spirit of God dwells in the born again believer permanently! There is no way today to lose it, and that's why it is the new birth, the divine nature, that's why we are the children of God and He is our Father. We have the spiritual genome of God inside: "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is the gift of God*" (Eph. 2:8), "having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God" (1 Pe. 1:23a), "His [God's] seed remains in him [the born again one]; and cannot sin [the spiritual seed], because has [the seed] been born of God" (1 Jn. 3:9b), God's seed is the spirit of God within us. The spirit of God within us can not sin, because its origin is God!

Another Old Testament prophet, Elisha, was so mad at the actions of the corrupt King Jehoram, that the only way to find rest and to allow himself to utter prophecy was through music: "'bring me a musician.'" Then it happened, when the musician played, that the hand of the LORD came upon him" (2 Kg. 3:15).

Now, prophets, as any human, also commit mistakes at the onset, when they start by the five senses, correcting quickly their stance once alerted by God: "So it was, when they came, that he looked at Eliab and said, "Surely the LORD's anointed *is before Him!*" But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For *the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart*" (1 Sam. 16:6-7). Jesus Christ himself needed to attempt again for a second time to be able to completely heal a blind man: "And he [Jesus] took hold of the blind man by the hand, and brought him out of the village, and when he had spit on his eyes and laid his hands upon him, he asked him, "Do you see anything?" And he looked up, and said, "I see men, but I perceive them as trees, walking." Then he laid his hands upon his eyes again, and he looked intently and was restored, and saw everything clearly" (Mr. 8:23-25).

One young prophet was told by God to eat nothing at Bethel after uttering his hard prophecy against the corrupt King Jeroboam, but an older prophet deceived the young prophet by telling him that God had said that it was O.K. to eat with him in that city, the consequence being that the young prophet died and was buried there (1 Kg. 13)! So, God is powerful enough to tell you personally all that He wants, and

once God clearly tells you something, don't succumb to others telling you a different thing from the one that God initially told you, even if they say that God told them what you should do. The Word of God and God Himself through His Revelation is able to tell you personally all you need to do and to know!

Sometimes the prophets say something that is made null or that changes almost immediately, according to the repentance of the hearer(s): "In those days Hezekiah was sick and near death... Isaiah ...said unto him, "Thus says the LORD: 'Set your house in order, for you shall die, and not live'" (2 Kg. 20:1), "and it happened, before Isaiah had gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "Return and tell Hezekiah... 'I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; surely I will heal you... I will add to your days fifteen years...'" (2 Kg. 20:4-6). "'Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before Me'" (Jon. 1:2), but "the people of Nineveh believed God" (Jon. 3:5), "then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it" (Jon. 3:10).

The prophets could also distinguish the identity and hearts of the persons consulting them. There was one blind prophet being visited by a bad woman in disguise inquiring about her child, if he will live or die. The old prophet perceived who she was because "the LORD had said to Ahijah, "Here is the wife of Jeroboam, coming to ask you something about her son, for he *is* sick. Thus and thus you shall say to her; for it will be, when she comes in, that she will pretend *to be another woman*" (1 Kg. 14:5).

Jesus Christ, and the Word of God, being our perfect teacher, is telling us today that: "All Scripture *is* God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely to every good work" (2 Tim. 3:16-17). All Scripture is given by God, God inspired the writers of the Bible, and is profitable to teach the good doctrine, for reproof if the teaching is not followed and if the practice is not according to it, and for correction to bring back to the good instruction. These are the three steps for the student to receive: 1) Teaching, 2) Reproof, if necessary and only according to the Word of God, and 3) Correction, back to the Truth. These three are the "instruction in righteousness", enabling us to be complete, as we have now body, soul, and spirit (1 Thess. 5:23), and to use our whole being, and most specially our new spiritual nature, our distinctive from the rest of humanity, that by our free will, furnishes us completely, to fulfill our deepest desires of our heart: to be fully able to do "every good work"!

We need to do our "diligent effort", to don't "be ashamed", and to present ourselves "approved before God" by "straightly cutting" the Word of Truth (2 Tim. 2:15), "rightly dividing" it [KJV], "cutting in a straight line" [Darby], "rightly handling" it [ESV], "guiding the word of truth along a straight path" [LEB], "correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching]" [Amplified Bible]...

In order to do so, we need to remember that "whatever was written previously was written for our learning, that through patience and through the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope" (Rom. 15:4). We don't need to take the Scriptures out of context, we need to let them explain themselves in their verse, chapter, book, in the whole Bible by accumulation of identical or theme related Scriptures, by the first use of its words, and by carefully distinguishing to whom the different statements were written; for example: "To those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, called *ones*,

holy *ones*, with all who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—theirs and ours” (1 Cor. 1:2b). Here we see that the Epistles of Paul are directed to us and are some of the most current news from God to us!

Today we have the nine operations of the gift of holy spirit, and the three things that sustain us are: faith (belief), love, and hope. This hope is the return of Christ Jesus to transform us in spiritual immortal bodies, and to take us away from the earth to heaven while Apocalypse destroys earth, to bring us back again after seven years to defeat the Antichrist, and to reign with Christ for a thousand years, and to judge the angels that fell, and to be forever with Christ and with God on earth, in His holy city, while being able to go outside to help others to receive immortality, and to travel through the whole universe.

But for now, we also have available five additional spiritual professions given as gifts by Christ Jesus, who “gave some apostles, and some, prophets, and some, evangelists, and some, pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the holy *ones* for the work of the ministry *and* for the building up of the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ” (Eph. 4:11-13). Even when we don’t know what our specific title is, we certainly, if we intensely want to serve others, we can exert one or several of those professions as needed. Is it really important to exactly know which one is our title, or is it better just to do it? Some people call these five trades: ‘the gifts of Ministries’.

For example, Paul was not only an Apostle, but he also functioned in the other four categories, according to the need of the new believers, sometimes opening new doors (evangelist), some other times edifying the groups of believers already established (pastor), sometimes he was teaching about the resurrection or the hope (teacher), sometimes prophesying about the coming son of perdition and our departure from the earth, our rapture to meet Christ in the sky and our judgment of angels (prophet), and as apostle, he brought old prophecies to be seen with the new light of our administration, like his explanation to Corinthians of “other tongues” revealed by Isaiah, the prophet.

The most important event that God wanted the Hebrew nation to remember was the Passover: “when your son asks you in time to come” (Dt. 6:20a); but today, the memorial that God wants us to teach our children and to remember, is the new and all-encompassing Passover, the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for all of us: “I received of the Lord that which also I delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you [, *eat*]. Do this in remembrance of me.” In like manner also the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink, in remembrance of me” ...For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not discern the body. For this cause many among you are weak and sick, and a number *of you* sleep” (1 Cor. 11:23-30). The broken body of Jesus, represented in that bread, was offered to us for our physical healing; the blood shed by Jesus was offered to wash our sins; simple and united truths forgotten and sadly separated in many services. The healing while eating the meat of the Passover lamb was known in the Old Testament, for example “the LORD listened to Hezekiah and healed the people” (2 Chr. 30:20), and the already seen verse of Ps. 105:37b, indicating that all Hebrews leaving Egypt were healed when they ate the lamb.

“That we may be no longer children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of, doctrine, by the trickery of men, in craftiness, after the wiles of error, but speaking the truth in love, we may grow up in every way into him, who is the head, *even* Christ, from whom the whole body being fitted together and united through that which every joint supplies, according to the working in *due* measure of each individual part, makes the increase of the body to the building up of itself in love” (Eph. 4:14-16).

Have we been tricked in the past by those tyrants that think that they know better? Well, God promises that no more! If we are “speaking the truth in love”, God assures us that we can grow up “in every way”, “to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ” (Eph. 4:13), our ultimate leader, our head! “The increase of the body”, the other believers worldwide, are the body of Christ building “itself in love” Why? Because, you do your best, but God is the only one and the real one truly responsible for giving them the authentic, the genuine increase! “I [Paul] planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase” (1 Cor. 3:6).

Seven of the nine actions of holy spirit, the spirit of God within us, were also available in the Old Testament, with the difference already noticed, that at that time holy spirit was conditional or temporary, depending on the faithfulness and behavior of the believers, while today, after Pentecost, the gift of holy spirit is a permanently established new nature within us, it is the seed of God, the genetics of God making us His children by His divine seed within us. Even Jesus Christ himself manifested only 7/9 of the gift of holy spirit that we today enjoy as the 9/9 complete unity thanks to his sacrifice. Let’s compare **Jesus (J.C.)** with the **Old Testament (O.T.)**, and our **N.T. (New Testament) after Pentecost**, noticing that most of these activities are intertwined with each other, so the next classification simply has the purpose to help us visualize the tremendous power we have today. And again, these are just examples, compared to the army of wonders available in the Bible itself. If God helped with His naked arm to the stubborn Hebrews of the Old Testament, how much more will not He do for us who are His beloved children?

Three operations of ministering or motion, available in the **O. T.**, with **J.C.**, and **after Pentecost**:

## 1

Faith (Believing):

“Elijah was a man of the same nature as us, and with *fervent* prayer he prayed that it might not rain, and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit” (Jam. 5:17-18). The whole story can be read at 1 Kg. 17-18. Here, the heart of Elijah noticed that the actions of the evil King, and his nation, were wrong, so Elijah wanted to shake it all, so he decided “*that it might not rain*”, and he did believing that during 3.5 years!

“*Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of the faith, who, for the joy that was set before him, endured the cross, thinking nothing of the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God*” (Heb. 12:2). We have here Jesus our savior, hanging on that cross while by his sheer faith he did not focused at that moment on his nakedness or injuries, he was “*thinking nothing of the shame*”, but he had “*the joy that was set before him*”! And now we have the spiritual faith of Christ!

“For an angel of the God whose I am and whom I serve stood by me this night saying, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul, you must stand before Caesar. And look!, God has granted you all those who sail with you.’ Therefore, men, keep up your courage, for I believe God, that it will be exactly as I have been told” (Acts 27:23-25). Paul needed to be bold, first to be at the presence of the angel of God, then to stand up and declare boldly to all the members of that ship the Revelation, because he believed on it!

## 2

### Energizings of Miracles

“And Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.” And the LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward. But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea” (Ex. 14:13-16). This was the beginning of one of the most striking miracles in the Old Testament. The people complaints again against Moses, he wrongly tells them to “stand still”, and then he starts to pray, to “cry” to God, to which God replied: “Why do you cry to Me?”, like telling Moses that it was not the time to pray or to “stand still”, that was the time to move!, i“to go forward”! Furthermore, God had already given the proper tool to Moses, the rod with which he already had done amazing miracles for Pharaoh, but God again instructs him of it: “lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it”, which Moses did, and his nation was saved, while the Egyptians died drowned.

Jesus miraculously multiplied the food (bread and fishes) in two occasions: 1) “And those eating were about five thousand men, aside from women and children” (Mt. 14:13-21); 2) “And they that had eaten were about four thousand” (Mr. 8:1-10). In the past, the same had happened: 1) with the bread that did feed a 100 (2 Kg. 4:42-44), 2) with Elijah, being feed by the widow of Zarephath (1 Kg. 17:8-16), and 3) the oil that Elisha miraculously did multiply to pay a debt of a widow, which saved her sons (2 Kg. 4:1-7).

Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence, “having summoned Barnabas and Saul, sought to hear the word of God. But Elymas the sorcerer... withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. But ...Paul, filled with holy spirit, fixed his gaze on him [Elymas] and said, “O you son of the Slanderer, full of all deceit and wickedness, you enemy of all righteousness, will you never stop making crooked the straight roads of the Lord? And now, Behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind, not seeing the sun for a time.” And immediately there fell on him a mist and darkness, and he went around seeking people to lead him by the hand. Then the proconsul, when he saw what had happened, believed, being amazed at the teaching about the Lord” (Acts 13:6-12).

“Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, and kept back *part* of the price (his wife also having known *about it*), and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles’ feet. But Peter said, “Ananias, why has the Adversary filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit, and to keep back *part* of the price of the land? While it remained *unsold*, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your authority? How is it that you have contrived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men, but to



God.” And Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed out *his last breath*... And it was about an interval of three hours later, when his wife, not knowing what had been done, came in. And Peter responded to her, “Tell me whether you sold the land for so much.” And she said, “Yes, for so much.” But Peter *said* to her, “How is it that you have agreed together to tempt the spirit of *the* Lord? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out.” And she fell down immediately at his feet, and breathed out *her last breath*” (Acts 5:1-10).

### 3

#### Gifts of Healings

“The son of the woman who owned the house became sick. And his sickness was so serious that there was no breath left in him. So she said to Elijah, “What have I to do with you, O man of God? Have you come to me to bring my sin to remembrance, and to kill my son?” And he said to her, “Give me your son.” So he took him out of her arms and carried him to the upper room where he was staying, and laid him on his own bed. Then he cried out to the LORD and said, “O LORD my God, have You also brought tragedy on the widow with whom I lodge, by [allowing] her son [to be] killed?” And he stretched himself out on the child three times, and cried out to the LORD and said, “O LORD my God, I pray, let this child’s soul come back to him.” Then the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came back to him, and he revived... And Elijah said, “See, your son lives!” Then the woman said to Elijah, “Now by this I know that you *are* a man of God, *and* that the word of the LORD in your mouth *is* the truth” (1 Kg. 17:17-24).

“He [Elisha] said, “About this time next year you shall embrace a son” ...the woman conceived, and bore a son when the appointed time had come, of which Elisha had told her. And the child grew... and *then* died. And she went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, shut *the door* upon him, and went out... Now when she came to the man of God at the hill, she caught him [Elisha] by the feet, but Gehazi came near to push her away. But the man of God said, “Let her alone; for her soul *is* in deep distress, and the LORD has hidden *it* from me, and has not told me.” So she said, “Did I ask a son of my lord? Did I not say, ‘Do not deceive me’?” ...And the mother of the child said, “As the LORD lives, and *as* your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So he arose and followed her... When Elisha came into the house, there was the child, lying dead on his bed. He went in therefore, shut the door behind the two of them, and prayed to the LORD. And he went up and lay on the child, and put his mouth on his mouth, his eyes on his eyes, and his hands on his hands; and he stretched himself out on the child, and the flesh of the child became warm. He returned and walked back and forth in the house, and again went up and stretched himself out on him; then the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes” (2 Kg. 4:14-37).

“It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus says, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the deceased, says to him, “Lord, by this time there will be a bad odor, for he has been *dead* four days.” Jesus says to her, “Did I not say to you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, “Father, I thank you that you heard me. And I knew that you always hear me, but because of the crowd standing around, I said it so that they may believe that you sent me.” And when he had said these things, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus,

come forth!" He who was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave-clothes, and his face was wrapped with a handkerchief. Jesus says to them, "Loose him, and let him go" (Jn. 11:38-44).

"When he [Jesus] drew near to the gate of the city, Behold, one who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a sizeable crowd from the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not cry." And he went near and touched the open coffin, and those carrying it stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." And the dead man sat up and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. And fear [profound respect] seized them all, and they began glorifying God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us," and, "God has visited his people." And this report about him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country" (Lk. 7:12-17).

"They come from the ruler of the synagogue's house saying, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?" But Jesus, ignoring the word spoken, says to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." And he allowed no man to follow with him except Peter, and James, and John (the brother of James). And they come to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and he sees a commotion, and many crying and wailing greatly. And when he had entered in, he says to them, "Why are you making a commotion and crying? The child is not dead, but sleeps." And they laughed him to scorn. But he, having put them all outside, takes the father of the child, and her mother, and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. And taking the child by the hand, he says to her, "Talitha cumi" (which being translated means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise"). And immediately the little girl rose up, and walked, for she was twelve years old. And they were immediately amazed with a great amazement. And he strictly charged them that no man should know this, and he said that something should be given her to eat" (Mr. 5:35-43).

"There was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha (which, when translated, is called Dorcas). She was full of good works and acts of charity which she did continuously. And it came to pass in those days that she became sick, and died. And when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. And since Lydda was close to Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him, entreating him, "Do not delay to come to us." And Peter arose and went with them. And when he had come, they brought him into the upper room, and all the widows stood by him crying, and showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas made while she was with them. But Peter sent them all out, and kneeled down and prayed, and turning to the body, he said, "Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. And he gave her his hand, and raised her up, and calling the holy ones and widows, he presented her alive. And this became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord" (Acts 9:36-42).

"Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having persuaded the multitudes and having stoned Paul, dragged him out of the city, assuming that he was dead. But when the disciples gathered around him, he rose up and entered into the city" (Acts 14:19-20).

"A certain young man named Eutychus sat in the window, sinking into a deep sleep, and as Paul lectured still longer, having been overcome by his [Eutychus's] sleep he [Eutychus] fell down from the third story,

and was taken up dead. And Paul went down and threw himself on him, and embracing him said, “Do not be troubled, for his life is in him.” And when he had gone up, and had broken bread and eaten, and had talked with them a long while, even until daybreak, and so departed. And they took the young man away alive, and were not a little comforted” (Acts 20:9-12).

Three operations of revelation or perception, available in the O. T., with J.C. and after Pentecost:

#### 4

##### Word of Knowledge

“He hangs the earth on nothing” (Job 26:7b), “It is He who sits above the circle of the earth” (Is. 40:22a), “Praise Him, you heavens of heavens, and you waters above the heavens!” (Ps. 148:4).

“The heart of the king of Syria was greatly troubled by this thing; and he called his servants and said to them, “Will you not show me which of us *is* for the king of Israel?” And one of his servants said, “None, my lord, O king; but Elisha, the prophet who *is* in Israel, tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedroom”” (2 Kg. 6:11b-12).

“Now when he [Jesus] was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in his name, seeing his signs that he was doing. But Jesus did not trust himself to them, because he knew all *people*, and because he did not need anyone to testify about man, for he himself knew what was in man. Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews...” (Jn. 2:23-3:1).

“Some of the experts in the law said within themselves, “This man blasphemes.” And Jesus, knowing their thoughts said, “Why are you thinking evil in your hearts?” (Mt. 9:3-4).

“A woman who was in the city, a sinner... when she knew that he was reclining *to eat* in the Pharisee’s house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment, and standing behind *him* at his feet, crying, she began to wet his feet with her tears. And she kept wiping them with the hair of her head, and kissing his feet, and anointing them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw *this*, he spoke within himself, saying, “This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what sort of woman *this is* who is touching him—that she is a sinner.” And Jesus answering said to him, “Simon, I have something to say to you.” And he says, “Say it, teacher” ...And turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered into your house, *yet* you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but she, since the time I came in, has not ceased to kiss my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. For this reason I say to you, her sins, which are many, have been forgiven, for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little”” (Lk. 7:37-47).

“The administration of the grace of God that was given to me for you, that by revelation the sacred secret [Musterion, The Mystery Now Revealed!] was made known to me, as I wrote before in brief, by which, when you read, you are able to understand my insight into the sacred secret of Christ, which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by *the* spirit, that through the Good News the Gentiles are co-heirs, and

fellowmembers of the body, and fellowpartakers of the promise in Christ Jesus... and to make all men see what is the administration of the sacred secret, which for ages has been hid in God who created all things, to the intent that now, to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly *places*, might be made known, through the congregation [through the body of Christ, the Church], the many sided wisdom of God, according to the Age-abiding purpose which he [God] purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Eph. 3:2-11).

“[Christ was] made alive in *the* spirit, in which also he went and heralded *his* victory to the spirits in prison, who at one time were defiant, when the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah” (1 Pe. 3:18b-20a). “God did not spare angels when they sinned, but threw them down into Tartarus, *the dungeon* [of the fallen angels], and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until *the judgment*” (2 Pe. 2:4). “Angels that did not keep their own domain, but left their proper habitation, he has kept in everlasting bonds under darkness for *the* judgment of *the* great Day [we are going to judge them!]\*]. Likewise, Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, in the same way as these [fallen angels] having indulged in sexual immorality and gone after unnatural flesh [*heteras sarkos*], are set forth as an example, suffering the punishment of the fire [for these fallen angels in the Age to Come]” (Jude 6-7). \* “Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more, then, things that pertain to *this* life?” (1 Cor. 6:3).

## 5

### Word of Wisdom

“Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I have had a dream, and *there is* no one who can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you *that* you can understand a dream, to interpret it.” So Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, “*It is* not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace” ...“The dreams of Pharaoh *are* one; God has shown Pharaoh what He *is* about to do: The seven good cows *are* seven years, and the seven good heads [of wheat] *are* seven years; the dreams *are* one. And the seven thin and ugly cows which came up after them *are* seven years, and the seven empty heads [of wheat] blighted by the east wind are seven years of famine... the dream was repeated to Pharaoh twice because the thing *is* established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass. “Now therefore, let Pharaoh select a discerning and wise man, and set him over the land of Egypt. Let Pharaoh do *this*, and let him appoint officers over the land, to collect one-fifth of *the produce* of the land of Egypt in the seven plentiful years. And let them gather all the food of those good years that are coming, and store up grain under the authority of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities. Then that food shall be as a reserve for the land for the seven years of famine which shall be in the land of Egypt, that the land may not perish during the famine” ...And Pharaoh said to his servants, “Can we find *such a one* as this, a man in whom *is* the spirit of God?” Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, *there is* no one as discerning and wise as you. You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word; only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you”” (Gn. 41:15-40).

“The king [Solomon] said, “The one says, ‘This *is* my son, who lives, and your son *is* the dead one’; and the other says, ‘No! But your son *is* the dead one, and my son *is* the living one.’” Then the king said,

“Bring me a sword.” So they brought a sword before the king. And the king said, “Divide the living child in two, and give half to one, and half to the other.” Then the woman whose son *was* living spoke to the king, for she yearned with compassion for her son; and she said, “O my lord, give her the living child, and by no means kill him!” But the other said, “Let him be neither mine nor yours, *but* divide *him*.” So the king answered and said, “Give the first woman the living child, and by no means kill him; she *is* his mother.” And all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had rendered; and they feared the king, for they saw that the wisdom of God *was* in him to administer justice” (1 Kg. 3:23-28).

“As one was cutting down a tree, the iron *ax head* fell into the water; and he cried out and said, “Alas, master! For it was borrowed.” So the man of God said, “Where did it fall?” And he showed him the place. So he cut off a stick, and threw *it* in there; and he [impaled it in the ax head and] made the iron float. Therefore he said, “Pick *it* up for yourself.” So he reached out his hand and took it” (2 Kg. 6:5-7).

“When they came to Capernaum, those who received the half-shekel *Temple tax* came to Peter and said, “Does not your teacher pay the half-shekel?” He says, “Yes.” And when he came into the house, Jesus spoke to him first, saying, “What do you think, Simon? The kings of the earth, from whom do they receive customs or poll-tax? From their sons, or from others?” And when he said, “From others,” Jesus said to him, “Therefore the sons are free. But lest we cause them to fall, go to the lake and cast in a hook, and take up the first fish that comes up, and when you have opened his mouth, you will find a stater *coin*. Take that and give *it* to them for you and me” (Mt. 17:24-27).

“Peter answered him and said, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you upon the waters.” And he said, “Come.” And Peter went down out from the boat and walked upon the waters to come to Jesus” (Mt. 14:28-29).

“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all *men* generously and without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, doubting nothing, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed around by the wind” (Jam. 1:5-6).

“He [Peter] said to them, “You yourselves know that it is unlawful for a man who is a Jew to associate with or visit a foreigner, and yet God has showed me that I should not call any man common or unclean, and therefore when I was sent for I came without arguing” (Acts 10:28-29a); “Cornelius said, “Four days ago, about this hour, I was praying in my house at the ninth hour, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing and said, ‘Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your acts of charity have been remembered before God. Therefore send *men* to Joppa, and call for Simon, who is called Peter. He is staying in the house of Simon a tanner, by the sea.’ Therefore I sent to you immediately, and you did well in that you have come”” (Acts 10:30-33a).

## 6

### Discerning of spirits

““No strength remains in me [Daniel] now, nor is any breath left in me.” Then again, *the one* having the likeness of a man [an angel] touched me and strengthened me. And he said, “O man greatly beloved,

fear not! Peace *be* to you; be strong, yes, be strong!” So when he spoke to me I was strengthened, and said, “Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me.” Then he said, “Do you know why I have come to you? And now I must return to fight with the [demonic] prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed the [demonic] prince of Greece will come. But I will tell you what is noted in the Scripture of Truth. No one upholds me against these, except Michael your [angelic] prince” (Dan. 10:17b-21).

“Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste *and* spoke, saying to his counselors, “Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?” They answered and said to the king, “True, O king.” “Look!” he answered, “I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the son of God [like an angel]” (Dan. 3:23-25).

“It came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, that the sons of God [angels] saw the daughters of men [humans], that they *were* beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose”, “there were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God [angels] came in to the daughters of men [humans] and they bore *children* to them. Those *were* the mighty men who *were* of old, men of renown” (Gn. 6:1-2, 4); “there was a day when the sons of God [angels] came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan [Literally: the Adversary] also came among them”, “the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God [all the angels] shouted for joy?” (Job 1:6, 2:1, 38:7).

“[Jesus] rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to him, “You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and enter no more into him.” And having cried out, and torn him much, he came out, and *the boy* became as though dead, so that most *of them* said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand, and raised him up and he arose” (Mr. 9:25b-27).

“There was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, saying, “What do we have in common with you, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know you, who you are—the Holy One of God.” And Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Hold your peace and come out of him.” And the unclean spirit, tearing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. And they were all amazed, so that they disputed among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He even commands the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” And immediately the report of him went out everywhere into all the surrounding region of Galilee” (Mr. 1:23-28).

“A certain slave-girl, who had a spirit of divination, met us, who was bringing her owners much profit by fortune-telling. Following after Paul and us, she kept crying out, saying, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation.” And she did this for many days. But Paul, being greatly disturbed, turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour” (Acts 16:16b-18).

“Philip went down to a city of Samaria, and proclaimed to them the Christ. And the multitudes, with one accord, were paying attention to the things that were spoken by Philip when they heard and saw the signs that he did. For *out of* many of the ones who had unclean spirits, *the demons* were coming out,

crying with a loud voice, and many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed. And there was much joy in that city” (Acts 8:5-8).

The only operation or action of speech, inspiration or utterance, available in the O. T., with J.C. and after Pentecost:

7

Word of Prophecy

“I will not leave you nor forsake you” (Jos. 1:5b).

“I have inscribed [engraved, graven, marked, written, pictured, tattooed, indelibly imprinted] you on the palms of My hands” (Is. 49:16a).

“I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you” (Jer. 31:3b).

“Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; for I am called by Your name, O LORD God of hosts” (Jer. 15:16).

‘Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know’ (Jer. 33:3).

“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” (Os. 4:6a).

“Come to me, all you who labor and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest” (Mt. 11:28).

“Then Jesus said to those Jews who had believed him, “If you remain in my word, *then* are you truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free”” (Jn. 8:31-32).

“I [Jesus] am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved, and will go in and go out, and will find pasture. The thief does not come, except to steal, and kill, and destroy. I [Jesus] came that they may have life, and may have *it* abundantly. I [Jesus] am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep” (Jn. 10:9-11).

“Jesus says to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you know him, and have seen him”” (Jn. 14:6-7).

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another. Just as I [Jesus] have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another” (Jn. 13:34-35).

“You [God] loved me [Jesus] before *the* foundation of the world [kataboles kosmon]” (Jn. 17:24).

“He [God] chose us [born-again ones] in him [Jesus] before *the* foundation of the world [kataboles kosmon]” (Eph. 1:4a).

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your petitions be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus” (Fil. 4:6-7).

“I can do all things through him [God in Christ in me, the gift of holy spirit] who empowers me” (Fil. 4:13).

“My God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus” (Fil. 4:19).

“Consider this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully” (2 Cor. 9:6).

Etc. and etc., as basically all the Word of God is prophecy, it is what God wanted us to know, and what He did for us, and what He did reveal to us, etc.

The only two operations that were not done or performed by any prophet or believer, not even by Jesus Christ, before the day of Pentecost are: 8) Speaking in Tongues and 9) Interpretation of Tongues, seen in the previous chapter; however, Jesus Christ and others, as we already saw, were fully aware of the impending coming of something bigger spiritually: “John answered, saying to them all, “I indeed baptize you in water, but the one who is mightier than I is coming, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to loosen. He will baptize you in holy spirit and fire”” (Lk. 3:16). For example, let’s track some of the Scriptures of the Old Testament known by Jesus Christ when he declared that the believers will manifest holy spirit, which includes the speaking in tongues, like rivers of living waters flowing from their interior:

“On the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. The one who is believing in me, as the Scripture has said, rivers of living water will continuously flow out of his [the new believer’s] belly.” Now he said this about the spirit, which those who believed on him were going to receive, for as yet there was no spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified” (Jn. 7:37-39).

Now, where did Jesus learn that: “Rivers of living water will continuously flow out of his belly”? First, we can see that this statement is highly related to another nearby one: “Jesus answered and said to her [the Samaritan woman], “Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never ever thirst, but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to life”” (Jn. 4:13-14). Jesus was completely instructed in all the Scriptures of the Old Testament, and as a matter of fact, Jesus defeated the Adversary first by only quoting his knowledge of the Scriptures remembering the textual, proper passages for the precise answer, responding: “It is Written!” (Mt. 4:4, 7, 10, etc.), so, it is possible to defeat the evil one with our knowledge of the Word of God! On the other hand, in Jn. 7:38 Jesus declared “as the Scripture has said”, which the Aramaic Peshitta is more precise by saying “as the Scriptures have said”, so, in this particular case, it is not something textually “written”, but it is something “said”!, and not only by one, but by multiple Scriptures!



Jesus Christ captured the accurate sense of every Scripture of the Old Testament announcing the arrival of the gift of holy spirit and its exuberant manifestation, like an incredible but true geyser of fresh, drinking and clean “rivers of living water”, and as Jesus told the Samaritan woman, also as “a well of water springing up [welling up, flowing up, gushing up, bubbling up, inexhaustible] to life”! This described properly what happens spiritually when we manifest holy spirit, the spirit of God, Christ in us, the hope of glory!

Jesus knew that the Old Testament said: “the words of a man’s mouth *are* deep waters; the wellspring of wisdom *is* a flowing brook” (Pr. 18:4), here it is key to see that “words” are equated to “deep waters”; “with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation” (Is. 12:3), “for I will pour water on him who is thirsty, and floods on the dry ground; I will pour My spirit on your descendants” (Is. 44:3a), “and in that day it shall be *that* living waters shall flow from Jerusalem” (Zech. 14:8a), and this last one, was read on the Temple in the Feast of Tabernacles when Jesus did speak on the eight day, the feast-day of no waters. So, our constant Speaking in Tongues within ourselves is like an inexhaustible caudal of waters of eternal and spiritual life.

One of the most surprising events is that John the Baptist was filled with holy spirit since he was inside the womb of his mother Elizabeth, and while he was growing, he was being strengthened in that holy spirit that he had, which was not the situation with Jesus, who received holy spirit near to his 30 years. Of John the Baptist we read that “the child grew and became strong in spirit” (Lk 1:80); on the other hand, “Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men” (Lk 2:52), this is very similar to the way Samuel himself was growing: “the child Samuel grew on, and was in favour both with the LORD, and also with men” (1 Sam. 2:26). God, the father of Jesus, said at the water baptism of Jesus that Jesus was His beloved son in which he was pleased. Jesus Christ was conceived by the manifestation of a miracle inside the womb of Mary, by the deed and grace of God, who is Spirit and who is Holy; however, Jesus learned and believed in the Scriptures like anyone of us, through a slow learning process by the use of his five senses. Jesus needed to demonstrate to us that that is possible! Such was the condition to reach our salvation. Jesus needed to be on equal grounds with Adam, the one who lost holy spirit. Jesus is the Word manifested in flesh for his own obedience, a will that hesitated, but got stronger on Gethsemani. The moment in which Jesus received a permanent, immortal spirit nature, was at his resurrection! “Who was declared *to be the* Son-of- God-in-power (in respect to *the* spirit of holiness) by *his* resurrection from among the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord” (Rom. 1:4).

Each disciple of Jesus wanted to be above the others; however, Jesus told them that if they were able to believe like little children, they will be able to own the kingdom of heaven, which is manifested today through the use of the gift of holy spirit that we have inside since we believe in our Lord and Savior, the living Jesus; we need to receive this holy education like little ones if we expect to apply it at full capacity! Those beloved children, belittled by the disciples, are innocent and cleaner in their minds than the adults contaminated in their brains with fears, bombarded with useless or negative information, lasciviousness, anger, hatreds, etc. Children believe more easily, and are closer to perform miracles and wonders, than the adults.

“By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God, not from works, so that no one can boast. For we are his handiwork, having been created in Christ Jesus to *do* good works, which God prepared in advance so that we would walk in them” (Eph. 2:8-10). We are freely saved, because of what our Lord Jesus did for us, but after our salvation, our Lord expects for us to do something important for love, to manifest the gift of holy spirit, something so costly for him.

The nine evidences demonstrating that we have holy spirit are what we, the born again believers, can do now. God is not weaker at all now in the age of grace, it is us and our understanding (or its lack thereof) of the Word of God, of His Revelation, and/or our belief on it what makes all the difference between a sterile and/or dead religion based only in dogmas and rituals, contrasted with the active ministry of the spiritual power of love!