

Are There
More Apostles
to Come?

Are There More Apostles to Come?

By Robert G. Theophilus

THIS BOOKLET IS NOT TO BE SOLD. The information provided is for the benefit of former members of the congregations of the Worldwide Church of God (WCG), and of current and prospective members of God's Church.

Christ personally commissioned His disciples to go out to the physical nation of Israel. Paul turned to the Gentiles after the Jews refused to hear him. Were there to be apostles continually raised up to go to the nations of the world preaching the Gospel, healing the sick, etc. and this until the end of God's master plan of salvation for mankind? Let's examine what the sure word of God, His holy Bible reveals to us.

Preamble

Please Note: All comments in brackets [] or in parentheses () as well as highlighted text (bolded and/or in blue) are from the author of this study. Bible quotations are in maroon.

I think it is essential to clarify the question of the “Holy Spirit” before we begin this study. If we say that who or what is the “Holy Spirit” is the question that needs to be answered, we are starting from the assumption that there exists such a being as the Holy Spirit and that it is a separate and distinct being from God and the Word. The question which should be asked is who are the beings the Bible tell us are holy, whose composition is spirit and who have existed eternally? Either the Bible plainly tells us who are the separate and distinct beings that existed from all eternity who created all things (spirit beings and the material universe) or we have no way of getting an answer to our question.

The Holy Spirits of the God Family

The Bible tells us in Gen 1:1 that:

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

The Hebrew word translated “God” is “Eloheem” which is the plural form of “Eloah which means “God”. The word “Eloheem” refers to “gods.” It is a uniplural noun like family, group, team, etc. In the beginning, there was therefore more than one God being in existence but how many were there?

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

In the beginning when God created the heaven and the earth there was God and there was another being with God who was also God, the Word. How can these two beings both be God; isn't that impossible?

The word God indicates the kind of existence of these 2 beings: their nature is to be God in the same way that all human beings have the same human nature. However, having the same nature does not mean that all human beings constitute a single being; indeed, they are all separate and distinct beings with their own personalities. God and the Word have in common the same nature or, level and type of existence, but they are separate and distinct beings just like all human beings who have the same human nature are separate and distinct beings.

God the Father

We read in the Bible that God became a father when the Word became flesh (Phi 2:5-8) by being born of woman after having been conceived in the virgin Mary by the holy spirit being called God (Luke 1:35). God from that point on became God the Father and the Word, who was born as the flesh-and-blood Jesus of Nazareth became God's Son or the Son of God. He was both fully God (his father was God and fully human (his mother was the virgin Mary).

Jesus was God the Father's only begotten son at the time when He was conceived in Mary's womb but He was not to be the only one begotten of the Father. God the Father is the holy spirit being in the Godhead that calls men to salvation.

Joh 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Joh 6:65 And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.

Joh 18:9 That the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, Of them which thou [God the Father] gavest me have I lost none.

1Pe 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

God the Word and Spokesman

The Bible term for being called is to be spiritually begotten by God the Father (1Pe 1:3). When we are begotten, we become a spiritual embryo that can be born again as a glorified spirit being with eternal life. Those begotten of the holy spirit God the Father who follow their calling are then able to come to the holy spirit being called the Word and Spokesman (John 6:44; 65; 18:9) who then teaches them. The glorified Jesus-Christ as God the Father's Word and Spokesman is the holy spirit being that works in the minds of God the Father's called and chosen ones.

Joh 7:39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

Jesus had to first be glorified for it to be possible for Christians to have access to the holy spirit called the Word and Spokesman because the glorified Christ is the holy spirit being who works in the minds of God's saints (John 14:17) in the same way that Satan is the evil spirit that works in the minds of the children of disobedience (Eph2:2).

Joh 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he [Christ] dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. [On the day of Pentecost, it would be in them and in all true Christians.]

Eph 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, [Satan] the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

The holy spirit God the Father calls men and those who follow their calling are then taught by the holy spirit called the Word and God the Father's Spokesman.

Joh 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

The Holy Ghost

The expression “Holy Ghost” used in the Bible is in error as there are no ghosts in the Godhead but rather 2 beings that are holy (John 17:11; Isa 6:3) and spirit (John 4:24).

Joh 17:11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.

Isa 6:3 And one cried unto another, and said, **Holy, holy, holy**, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

Joh 4:24 **God is a Spirit:** and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

These 2 God beings who are holy and spirit are the holy spirit beings of the God family who existed in the beginning at the creation of all things.

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

And, the Word who was with God is before all things i.e., *nothing* existed before He created them whether made of spirit or matter.

Col 1:15 [Christ] Who is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of every creature:

Col 1:16 For by him [the Word who became Jesus-Christ] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

Col 1:17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

In the beginning before anything either physical or spiritual was created, there was God and the Word who existed before all things and no other being is mentioned as having existed with them. There is no bib-

lical evidence that there ever existed a third, separate and distinct personage in the Godhead called the “Holy Spirit” who dwelt in eternity with God and the Word.

God is a Family

Throughout the Bible we can find many verses which clearly indicates the existence of family relations between God and the Word and God’s called, chosen and faithful.

Mat 11:27 All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

Mat 12:50 For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

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

God is clearly a family in which many can be ultimately born again by a resurrection from the dead to eternal, glorified spirit life in God’s Kingdom.

Rom 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he [God’s Son] might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Col 1:18 And he [the glorified Christ] is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

Christ was the first to be born again by a resurrection from the dead to be followed by many brethren.

Bible Writing Convention

The practice in the Bible has been to simply use the expression “the Holy Spirit” without indicating which God personage in the Godhead the expression represents. Over time, because of this practice, just about everybody has come to believe that the Holy Spirit is a separate and distinct God being in the Godhead but, there is no single verse or group of verses in the Bible that prove the existence of such a third being in the Godhead. The words “holy” and “spirit” are adjectives that describe the nature of

God the Father and of God the Word i.e., they are holy beings made of spirit.

Whenever we encounter the expressions the “Holy Spirit” or simply the “Holy Spirit” in the Bible we must look at the context to determine of which holy spirit being of the Godhead the Bible is talking about: the holy spirit, God the Father or the holy spirit, the Word and Spokesman.

The Word is the holy spirit being in the Godhead who carries out the instructions and wishes of the holy spirit, God. He is the faithful son who seeks to do his father’s will in all things. He is the member of the God family that did the work of creating the heaven and the earth, who ruled over ancient Israel through Moses and his human successors, He is the one who became a man who suffered and died to be God the Father’s perfect sacrifice for sin and make the salvation of mankind possible, etc. and He came to reveal the Father to those who follow the Father’s calling.

Making Things Clearer

In this study, when referring to God’s spirit who, depending on the circumstances can be the holy spirit personage called God the Father or the holy spirit personage called God the Word and Spokesman, I will not capitalize either of the adjectives “holy” and “spirit”. This is in order to not perpetuate the false impression in the minds of readers that there is a 3rd being in the Godhead called the “Holy Spirit.” Instead, I will refer to either of the holy spirits in the God family as being God’s spirit without capitalizing the word “spirit” to make it plain that we are not referring to a third God being in the God family called the “Holy Spirit” but to one of the 2 God beings in the Godhead.

God’s family is presently made up of 2 holy spirit beings to which are to be added thousands and possibly millions of other holy spirit beings when God’s plan of salvation for mankind has reached its end. The saints that endure in the faith until the end of their natural human life, will be resurrected as individual holy spirit beings in God’s Kingdom when it is established.

There are two studies which you can read regarding what is the “Holy Spirit” and decide for yourself in light of the Bible-based evidence offered if such a being exists in the Godhead. These studies are: [What is the Holy Spirit? Cliff Notes Version](#) and [Who or What is the Holy Spirit?](#)

NOTE: All comments in brackets [] or in parentheses () as well as highlighted text (**bolded** and/or in **blue**) are from the author of this study. Bible quotations are in maroon.

There are many who think that more apostles are to come and that some have actually come and for a time did a work for God and then disappeared from view once their mission was accomplished.

It is generally considered that the mission of an apostle is to preach the Gospel to the unconverted world and in this way be God's human level instrument in bringing men to conversion. It is thought that without apostles preaching to the unconverted, men would never get to know the Gospel and can never be saved. But, in our days, and as it has been over the centuries since the First Coming of Christ, there continues to be confusion about what it is exactly Christ meant by the expression "Gospel of the Kingdom of God." Some are preaching a Gospel about the person of Christ, others preach a gospel of grace and going to heaven at the time of death.

Another important realization is that unconverted men do not have the mind to understand God's spiritual truth and that it is God who determines when a person is called. And, the Bible tells us that the holy spirit God the Father is the holy spirit being responsible for calling men; it is not the doing of ANY man.

Together, in this study, we will examine how chosen men become apostles, when evangelists are needed, and what was the focus of the ordained ministry in God's First Century Church i.e., the elders, teachers, pastors and deacons. It should be remembered that because of the persecutions that came upon the First Century Church it had to eventually

flee into the wilderness to escape the wrath of a new great false religion who imprisoned and put to death members of all other religions. Because of this scattering and the death of the apostles and those they taught, much of the truth given to the apostles and the First Century Church became lost. God's Church became small and invisible to the world to avoid being persecuted and the ministerial positions that existed in the early church ceased to exist.

Why? Because after the great scattering of God's First Century Church and the resulting loss of truth, there remained no man who had the truth given the apostles by Christ. The apostles and those appointed by them to ministerial positions had the truth but after some more than 1,900 years since the scattering of God's Church, there are no men today who can honestly claim to have it.

Since a long time ago and nowadays, churches are but organizations of men who appointed themselves to ministerial positions. They appointed themselves or were appointed by an organization of men who gave itself the authority to appoint men to ministerial positions. Because of the great and long lasting persecutions upon God's First Century church the continuity between it and future converts was lost.

God's New Testament church is spiritual, not physical. Its members are those called and chosen by the holy spirit God the Father and they are being taught by the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman as they study God's word, the holy Bible.

Heb 1:1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners
spake **in time past** unto the fathers by the prophets,

Heb 1:2 Hath **in these last days** spoken unto us by his Son,
whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he
made the worlds;

We have been in the last days since the day of the first NT Pentecost when the holy spirits of the Godhead were made available to specific men called by God the Father. During the Millennium and by the end of the Last Great Day all mankind will have been called and given an opportunity for salvation.

Those called and chosen by God the Father **MUST** worship Him in spirit and in truth.

Joh 4:23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true

worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

That hour or time came on the firstday of Pentecost after Christ's ascension.

Joh 4:24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him **MUST** worship him in spirit and in truth.

Salvation is a personal and individual relationship maintained by truly converted Christians with the holy spirit God the Father through their high priest and mediator, the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman who teaches them all things as they study God's holy Bible.

No man can call another man and the knowledge and understanding of God's spiritual truth is by revelation. It is not and cannot be the doing of any man.

1Co 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are **spiritually discerned**.

Gal 1:12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but **by the revelation of Jesus Christ**.

God's New Testament church is spiritual, its members are all those called, chosen and faithful by the holy spirit God the Father, its teacher is the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman and their mediator between them and God the Father is Christ.

1Ti 2:5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

In New Testament times, since the great persecution and scattering of God's First Century Church, the church no longer has physical men as teachers of its members. The following study available on this site by clicking on the following link provides detailed information on what is God's New Testament church: [God's Church is Spiritual](#)

The Calling of Apostles

Christ following His resurrection and before returning to His Father commissioned His disciples.

Mat 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto **them**, saying, **All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.**

Mat 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: [spirit]

Mat 28:20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

In the book of Galatians, we learn that the original disciples were to go to the lost sheep of Israel and that Paul went to the Gentiles after the Jews refused to hear him.

Gal 2:7 But contrariwise, when they saw that the gospel of the uncircumcision was committed unto me, [Paul] as the gospel of the circumcision was unto Peter;

Gal 2:8 (For he that wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision, the same was mighty in me toward the Gentiles:) Gal

2:9 And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision.

Paul's conversion came after that of the disciples and he tells us how he was made an apostle.

Gal 1:1 Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)

Eph 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:

Col 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timotheus our brother,

1Ti 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope;

The disciples nor Paul were made apostles by other men, it was by God. Would it be that since the early NT apostles, there are to be no more apostles? Jesus who was the holy spirit God the Word in the flesh is the one who made apostles out of the disciples and Paul.

Are there any other ways that men can be appointed to be apostles?

If there are any, I am not aware of them. In OT times there was the ordination of Aaron and his sons to be priests of God who would be responsible for teaching the law to the people and administering the different offerings, washings, animal sacrifices. Their ordination was by God through Moses who talked directly with God; it was not just by any man. If we read through the NT we cannot find another example of anyone except the disciples and Paul becoming apostles. And, in NT times, God tells us that he speaks to His church **only** through His Son.

Heb 1:1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

Heb 1:2 Hath in these last days **spoken unto us by his Son**, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

In NT times, there are no prophets to come to God's spiritual nation of Israel, His Church. God speaks to His elect by His Son, the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman who we have in writing, God's Holy Bible. In other words, God speaks to NT Christians by His Holy Bible as they study it. There are therefore no human messengers to come from God, except the Two Witnesses, who will be given precise messages by God to be conveyed to the world. The OT example of Aaron's ordination is not transferable nor applicable to NT times. In other words, no man has the authority to ordain apostles. If apostles are to exist in NT times, there are no verses in the Bible that indicate that any apostle is to appear. The Bible does not provide any example of men in NT times being appointed by men to be apostles.

More Apostles?

In Eph 4 we read of the different offices that existed in God's First Century Church before its scattering but there is nothing said about there being more apostles created by men. It is God who gave the First Century Church to have the positions mentioned in the following verses of Ephesians 4.

Eph 4:10 He **[the resurrected Christ]** that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)

Eph 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; **[these are the OT prophets and the apostles found in the Gos-**

pels] and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

Eph 4:12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Christ is the one who gave some to be apostles, (the disciples and Paul), and some prophets (these are the OT prophets; no prophets are to come in NT times except the Two Witnesses whose message will be to the world NOT God's Church). Evangelists were appointed by apostles to assist them in their word of preaching the Gospel; however, when there are no apostles, there cannot be any evangelists.

God's Church as described by Christ Himself is the "little flock." It would never be a large organization owning professionally landscaped properties, expensive buildings in gated communities, be on radio, television and social media and fly around the world doing "the work" on private executive jets bought with the tithes and offerings of the faithful.

There are no other apostles but the 12 disciples and Paul mentioned in the NT right on up to the book of Revelation nor are there any prophecies to the effect that one or more apostles were to come for one reason or another after the death of the original apostles.

Apostles are not made by the hand of men but by God. None of the apostles appointed themselves or were appointed by other men (Gal 1:1; 1Tim 1:1). And, the Holy Bible, the Word of God, Christ in writing, tells us there are no other apostles to come; none are mentioned in the Gospels and in the epistles except the original apostles.

If there were to be more apostles, God would have given us information in the Bible about how they are to be appointed. We have no example of any other apostles having been appointed except Paul and Christ's disciples. And, most importantly, there is no example of any man appointing another man as an apostle in the Bible. Anyone calling himself an apostle in one of the many so-called churches of God of this world is appointing himself or is being appointed by men. They have not been appointed by God.

Preaching the Gospel

So, how is the Gospel to be preached to the world as a witness which is something that must occur before the end comes.

Mat 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

This topic is explained in detail in the following studies: [Was the Gospel Ever Suppressed?](#) and [What is the End of the World and When will it Happen?](#)

We know that the world has to repent and believe the Gospel to be saved.

Mar 1:15 And saying, **The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.**

Mar 13:10 And the gospel must first be published among all nations.

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is **the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth;** to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

We also know that the Gospel has to have been preached in all the world unto all nations. For the first 4,000 years of man's existence, there was no Gospel to be preached. The Word had not become a man for the purpose of being God's perfect sacrifice for sin and being resurrected to His previous glory. Christ's sacrifice accepted by God the Father guaranteed the fulfilment of God's plan of salvation for mankind for without a sacrifice for sin, all mankind was under penalty of the second death from which no resurrection is possible. The Gospel could not have been preached until this perfect sacrifice had occurred.

The Gospel is the good news of the coming Kingdom of God at the end of God's plan of salvation for mankind which occurs at the time of the Great White Throne Judgment at the end of the Last Great Day. Humanity will cease to exist, the current heaven and earth will be burnt up and a new heaven and earth will be created by God. All those called, chosen and faithful will become glorified spirit being with eternal life and become members of God's Kingdom.

The Gospel has to reach each and every one of those who have died without ever having heard the Gospel in the first 4,000 years of God's plan of salvation. The Gospel also has to be heard by current Christians and those that are yet to be born during the Millennium and the Last Great Day.

Who has the ability to teach past generations, current Christians and those to come. Would it take someone who has the power to resurrect men and to open their minds to accept God level spiritual truth which includes the Gospel?

All these topics are covered in the previously mentioned studies.

Concluding Comments

There is this universal belief in Christian communities that the Church exists to preach the Gospel and to bring men to salvation according to Mat 24:14 and Mat 28:19-20

Mat 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

Mat 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: [spirit]

Mat 28:20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

However, this command was given directly by Christ to the disciples and this is what made them apostles and it also applies to Paul who was also personally commissioned by Christ. The disciples were to go to the lost sheep of Israel and Paul to the Gentiles (Initially, he went to the Jews but he was so fully rejected that he turned to the Gentiles.)

Since the death of the original apostles, no other men have been made apostles by God. Men do not have the authority to appoint themselves or others as apostles. The responsibility to preach the Gospel was given to the apostles not to the ordained ministry and in these last days in which we live, God no longer speaks directly to men as He did with Moses, nor is He sending prophets to them.

Heb 1:1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

Heb 1:2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

God the Father speaks to His called and chosen ones by His Son, the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman i.e., through the Bible which is the Word of God, Christ in writing. God is no longer speaking to His Church through prophets i.e., men specially chosen by God to convey

information to His Church. And, most importantly for the topic under discussion, God is not manifesting Himself to men as He had done through Christ, to appoint certain men specially chosen by HIm to be apostles.

The Gospel will be preached to the world unto all nations but it will not be the doing of men nor can it be. All nations and each and every man living in those nations; the ones that have come and gone, today's nations and the ones to come during the Millennium and the Last Great Day, have to have heard and believed the Gospel to be saved.

Only God can resurrect those men who have died without ever having heard the Gospel (the vast majority of mankind) and open their minds to His spiritual truth so they do not immediately reject it upon hearing it and be made to choose between following the truth given them or returning into the world and losing the truth they had been given and their salvation.

Contrarily to what is widely believed by the different religious organizations of this world, the preaching of the Gospel is not the means used by God to call men to repentance and belief. It is to be preached only as a witness. Conversion is through the work done by the holy spirit God the Father who is the one who calls men out of the world (John 6:44) and by the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman who teaches all things (John 14:26) to God the Father's called and chosen ones. Conversion is the result of the work done by the holy spirits of the God family. This is the way it has been since the first day of Pentecost, is now and will be during the Millennium and the Last Great Day.

The Gospel message is that God has a kingdom, whose king is God, whose law is God's law, whose members are immortal, spirit beings, and whose territory will the new heaven and the new earth. The holy spirit God the Father will call all men without exception. Those that follow their calling and remain faithful until the end of their natural lives will become part of God's Kingdom by a resurrection from the dead to glorified, immortal, holy spirit life.

Men greatly rejoice in knowing that there is a new world coming that will replace the current physical/material world and put an end to the sufferings, pain, sorrows and death resulting from being frail, mortal human beings who inevitably grow old and die.

