

Fundamental Bible Principles

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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.

In this study you will find listed many basic Bible principles that should help you to better understand your Bible. God tells all of His called and chosen ones who are remaining faithful that it is their responsibility to prove all things with their Bible to make sure they are not following false prophets. These are men who claim to be true representatives of God who have been given a greater understanding of the Bible which they want to share with you. They are ravening wolves in sheep's clothing with a huge appetite for fame and money.

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 (Php 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 o 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?](#)

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In this study, to keep things brief, I will only give the most applicable Scripture for each of the principles mentioned. They are explained at length in the many studies posted on this Web site.

Let's get started.

1. Free Moral Agency

Mankind given free moral agency by God which means that no one can be forced to believe something against their will.

Deu 30:19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

Ancient Israel was commanded to choose as are all those called by the holy spirit God the Father. For man to be able to choose there must be no power in the physical universe or in the spirit world (including Satan) that can force him to choose something against his will. This makes it possible for God to judge men because they are entirely responsible for their decisions to do good or evil. No man can blame others for the bad decisions they make.

2. Character

Having absolute free moral agency makes character possible which is the UNFORCED personal commitment to obey God in all things to the best of one's abilities.

Rom 8:14 For as many as are **led** by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

God will NOT force anyone to obey Him; He will only rule over those who voluntarily submit to Him; no one will be saved against his will.

3. Mind Power

Of all the animals created by God only man's animal brain has mind power which is the ability to think made possible by the spirit in man.

1Co 2:11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save **[but by]** the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but **[by the]** the Spirit of God.

What gives the human brain mind power is a spirit essence added to it which the Bible calls the spirit of man. It is from God and returns to God at the time of death.

Ecc 12:7 Then shall the dust **[man's physical body made of the dust of the ground]** return **[at the time of death]** to the earth as it was: and the spirit **[the spirit essence in man]** shall return unto God who gave it.

The mind power given man is the means used by God to reveal truth to His called and chosen ones as they study their Bible. The Bible is the physical point of contact between God and men.

The spirit in man that gives man's animal brain mind power is the spiritual contact point between men and the holy spirits of the God family, God the Father and God the Word.

Mind power and the absolute freedom to choose is what makes possible each person's unique individuality and personality. God through the Word created mankind in their image (mind) and likeness (physical appearance) to make it possible for men upon repentance and belief and remaining faithful until the end of their natural lives to become part of Their Kingdom by a resurrection from the dead to immortal spirit life..

4. Knowledge and Understanding

Anyone can have knowledge of the Bible but only God's called and chosen ones can have a correct understanding of what it says. This is something that can only come from God's mind to the minds of truly converted Christians. It is by revelation from God's minds to the minds of God's called and chosen ones.

The truth of this is found in the very great number of different Christian churches who all take their doctrines from the Bible but yet all have significant doctrinal differences that keep them apart. They all have different understandings of the Bible which they are firmly convinced are the right ones and which they steadfastly refuse to change.

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.

Unless we have the holy spirits of the God family dwelling in us the truth contained in the Bible is foolishness to us and our understanding of it will almost always contain serious errors.

Rom 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

The natural man and the carnal mind are those who don't have dwelling in them the holy spirit God the Father and the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman. The unconverted can have knowledge but they cannot have a correct understanding of many of the doctrines of the Bible.

Pro 9:10 The fear [the desire to obey God] of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

You only ever have a correct knowledge of who and what is God, who and what is His church, how His plan of salvation for mankind is being administered, etc. if you have a correct understanding of the Scriptures. This is only possible by revelation from God.

5. Your Calling

Only the holy spirit God the Father can call men to salvation; NO MAN CAN DO SO including the ministers of the many false churches of God.

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

Your calling was the result of a great one-time miracle performed by God the Father who opened up your mind to accept and not immediately reject the spiritual truth He was showing you.

It is impossible for any man to call men to salvation.

Why is it necessary for men to come to Christ through the Father?

Joh 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, [holy spirit] 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.

Because He is the holy spirit who teaches all things to the holy spirit God the Father's called and chosen ones. The resurrected Christ as explained under the next sub-heading is the holy spirit God the Word.

6. The Holy Spirits of the God Family

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

Two God beings; one was called God and the other who was also a God being, was called the Word.

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

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

The God being called God the Word made all things; the heavens and the earth, and the creation of man and of spirit beings such as the angels.

God is holy.

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.

And, God is a spirit.

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

So, God is a holy spirit.

The Word is holy.

Luk 1:35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that **holy thing** which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

And, the Word is also a God being like God the Father who is holy.

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

Therefore, the Word is also holy.

The Word is a holy spirit.

God and the Word are the holy spirits of the God family and are responsible for the administration of God's plan of salvation for mankind.

No other holy spirit being is mentioned in the Bible. The words "holy spirit" are often found in the Bible but they do not refer to a third being in the God family. Depending on the context, the words "holy spirit" are referring to God the Father or to God the Word.

God the Word is the holy spirit of the God family who faithfully executes the will of the holy spirit God the Father. God the Word is the holy spirit who does the work commanded by God the Father.

Psa 104:30 Thou **[God the Father]** sendest forth thy spirit, **[God the Word]** they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth.

Joh 1:2 The same **[the Word]** was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 **All things** were made by him; **[the Word]** and **without him was not any thing made that was made.**

Heb 1:2 **[God the Father]** Hath in these last days spoken unto us **[God's spiritual nation of Israel or God's church]** by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, **by whom also he made the worlds;**

7. The teachers of God's New Testament Church

Christ knew that His disciples would be shaken when He would be taken

from them by ascending to His Father after having accomplished His mission. He was the Comforter that was with them and He wanted to reassure them that they would be given another Comforter who would forever be with them.

Joh 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

The Comforter is Christ who was with the disciples. He would be forever with them, and all truly converted Christians who would come after them, in God's Kingdom.

Joh 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye [the disciples] know him; for he [I, Christ] dwelleth with you, and shall be in you [After His ascension to His Father].

Christ says the Comforter is also the Spirit of truth. It is something the world cannot accept or know because it cannot verify its existence with their physical senses because it is not something material.

Joh 14:18 I [Christ] will not leave you comfortless: I [Christ] will come to you.

Christ will come to them and comfort them, and all true Christians throughout the ages.

Joh 14:19 Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.

Joh 14:20 At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.

The holy spirit God the Father and the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman (Christ after His ascension to His Father) dwell in all truly converted Christians.

Joh 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, [the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth] 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.

Joh 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself;

but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. [He will give you understanding of Bible prophecies.]

The correct understanding of the Scriptures is by the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman who is responsible in the holy spirit God the Father's plan of salvation for mankind for teaching all things to truly converted Christians.

Upon being called it is the holy spirit God the Father who teaches and upon being chosen (accepting God's calling), it is the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman who teaches them all things.

7. God's Spiritual Nation or God's Church

God's church exists only by, and because, of the holy spirits working in the minds of men. It is not, and cannot be, the doing of any man or organizations of men. Men have NO power to call men and they cannot give them understanding of the spiritual truth of the Bible.

1Co 3:5 Who then is Paul, [an apostle] and who is Apollos, [a human teacher] but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? [It was God the Father who made it possible for them to believe. (John 6:44)]

1Co 3:6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. [in understanding]

It is God and not men, not even Paul who was an apostle, who gave those to whom they preached, the ability to believe and to have growth in understanding of the Scriptures.

1Co 3:7 So then neither is he [Paul, a man] that planteth any thing, [of any importance] neither he that watereth; [Apollos, a man] but God that giveth the increase.

The administration of God's plan of salvation for mankind in NO WAY depends on men. Understanding of God's spiritual truth is by the holy spirit God the Word teaching God the Father's called and chosen ones as they study God's holy Bible.

1Co 2:10 But God [the holy spirit God the Father] hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: [the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman] for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

8. God's Church is Spiritual

God's Church is spiritual because God the Father (a spirit being) calls and chooses men and God the Word (a spirit being) teaches them as they study God's word, the holy Bible. There are NO men or organizations of men standing between Christians and God. Their ONLY mediator and great high priest is Christ.

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

9. Who are God's Church?

God's Church is all those called, chosen and faithful who are growing in knowledge and understanding by their study of the Bible wherever they may be in the world, by themselves or in little groups.

It is not an organization of men with a man at its head who claims to be the one through whom God's spiritual truth is made known to those who follow him. The only mediator between God and truly converted Christians is the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman.

There is no requirement whatsoever for truly converted Christians to become part of any organizations of men no matter how much they claim to be God's true Church. They have appointed themselves as ministers or prophets of God or were appointed by an organization of men who gave itself the authority to do so. It is not from God.

10. No prophets in God's NT Church

Heb 1:1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers [God's OT physical nation of Israel] by the prophets,

Heb 1:2 Hath in these last days [Started with the foundation of God's NT church on the day of Pentecost] 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 directly to those constituting His NT church by His Son, the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman responsible for teaching all things to truly converted Christians (John 14:26).

A prophet is a man sent by God to give a message or teach His nation. This nation was physical in the Old Testament but it is a spiritual nation

in the New Testament. Heb 1:1 very clearly tells us that today God is not sending any prophets or men to represent Him and teach His spiritual nation. He is doing so by His Son the holy spirit God the Word (John 14:26).

11. The True Pastors of God's Spiritual Nation

Jer 3:15 And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

Eze 34:1 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

Eze 34:2 Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD unto the shepherds; Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flocks?

Eze 34:10 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their hand, and **cause them to cease from feeding the flock**; neither shall the shepherds feed themselves any more; for I will deliver my flock from their mouth, that they may not be meat for them.

The true pastors and teachers of God's spiritual NT nation or church are the holy spirit God the Father and the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman. It is not and cannot be men as the understanding of God's truth is only possible by revelation from God. Revelation occurs by God sharing thoughts from His mind to the minds of His called and chosen ones. This is what gives them understanding of the Scriptures.

Heb 12:2 Looking unto Jesus **[the holy spirit God the Word]** the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

12. God's First Century Church

The church that existed in the days of the apostles had the following offices of responsibility:

Eph 4:10 He **[Christ]** that descended **[became a man born of woman]** is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, **[the resurrected Christ now sitting as the holy spirit God the Word at the right-hand of the holy spirit God the Father]** that he might fill all things.)

Eph 4:11 And he [Christ] gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

On the day of Pentecost, God's spiritual nation came into being. The disciples had the truth that was personally taught them by Christ and which they taught to men chosen to assist them as evangelists, pastors and teachers. Soon after Christianity began it came under persecution first by the Jews and then by a great false church which persecuted all others who would not accept its doctrines.

The members of God's church had to flee into the wilderness far from the great cities of the time to escape being imprisoned or put to death. The church was scattered and after the death of the apostles and those they had taught, over the centuries of persecution, the truth given the church by Christ through the apostles became lost but for a few outstanding requirements such as the observation of the Sabbath and the keeping of the 10 commandments.

Consequently, nowadays, there are no men who have the truth taught the apostles or any truth which is absolute that all are to believe without question. The proof of this is the great number of different Christian religions including the great number of churches of God who supposedly all take their doctrines from the Bible but yet all have significant differences in what they believe which keep them apart.

God's New Testament church is a spiritual nation taught by the holy spirits of the God family. There is no organization of men that has the knowledge and understanding of the Scriptures to be able to feed God's little flock.

13. God's People the Foolish Things of the World

1Co 1:26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:

1Co 1:27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

1Co 1:28 And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:

1Co 1:29 That no flesh should glory in his presence.

God's spiritual nation is made up of the little people of this world. For the most part, they are not the smart, powerful, influential, rich and highly respected men of this world. No one could ever believe that they are the ones who are being given understanding of the truths of the Bible, yet they are the ones with whom God is working.

God's OT prophets were also the little people of the world and those who heard them in their days refused to believe anything they said just as the established religious groups, both Christian and non-Christian of our days, refuse to hear anyone except those who were trained by them. No outsider can possibly have any knowledge or truth they don't already have. They see themselves as the gatekeeper and custodians of the only possible truth which can only come from their organization.

Consequently, it is impossible for them to ever have any growth in the true knowledge of the Scriptures as they would never accept that it could come from someone which is not one of them.

14. God's Little Flock God's Church

Mat 20:16 So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.

Mat 7:13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

Mat 7:14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Many are called, few are chosen, and few of the chosen remain faithful; this is why God's faithful will not be found in large, highly visible organizations of men headed up by men.

14. God's Invisible Nation

Conversion is a process that goes on in the mind and is not something that is visible to others. Truly converted Christians are invisible to the unconverted world and to each other. It is not possible in a crowd of people to identify who are the truly converted, if any, or even if they are any living in our neighborhood.

They therefore cannot come together to form large organizations of men visible to the world.

The truly converted live invisibly among the unconverted.

15. Why God's Spiritual Nation?

The reason why men are called and chosen is for them to demonstrate to God whether they will maintain their attitude of obedience to Him in all things to the best of their abilities until the end of their natural life. It is their time of judging. In the Great White Throne Judgment at the end of the Last Great Day they will be rewarded according to their works of obedience to God in this life and become part of God's Kingdom or be found to have been unfaithful servants and lose their salvation.

God's spiritual nation has no commission to preach to the unconverted world for whom God's truth is foolishness.

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.

The only thing God wants from His called and chosen ones is their continuing commitment to obey Him in all things as best they can.

16. God's Government

Upon conversion, God writes His law on the heart of His chosen ones.

Jer 31:31 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

Jer 31:32 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD:

Jer 31:33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, **I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts;** and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

God's people are all those called and chosen by God the Father and who are being taught all things by God the Word. God's people in NT times is no longer a physical nation but a spiritual one. The descendants of God's physical nation are not now God's people as made clear by the last part of Jer 31:33. When God offers the physical descendants of ancient Israel

to enter a new covenant will be the time when it will become possible for those who enter into the New Covenant to become part of God's spiritual nation of Israel.

Under the Old Covenant, God's law was written on stone tablets kept in the ark of the covenant in the holy of holies in the tabernacle of the congregation. It was not a part of the people. Under the New Covenant, God's law becomes part of those converted; it is written in their hearts or in their minds. It is always with them and it is what they use to govern themselves. It is God's government in their lives.

God's government is not and cannot ever be represented by any man calling himself Pastor General in any organization calling itself God's Church. It is a gross misunderstanding of the Bible for anyone to claim they are representatives of God's government on this earth. Salvation doesn't come from being in submission to their government but to God's government which is defined by His law which is in the mind of all truly converted Christians.

God's NT spiritual nation or church which began on the day of Pentecost has entered the New Covenant that God will make with the physical descendants of the physical and never converted nation of Israel. Physical Israel must enter the New Covenant to become part of God's spiritual nation of Israel. This new covenant is already being made with all those called and chosen by the holy spirit God the Father since the day of Pentecost. The New Covenant is the means to salvation for all those of physical Israel who will enter into it as well as for all those being called and chosen by God since the day of Pentecost. There are not 2 different ways of salvation with one being for physical Israel and a different one being for the Gentiles.

17. Great Commission Given ONLY to the Apostles

For those of us who have been members of the Worldwide Church of God under the leadership of Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong (HWA), its Pastor General, we should remember how HWA always emphasized that the ministry had no responsibility for preaching the Gospel to the world.

The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation and all men have to have heard it, repented and believed to be saved. This includes those of the first 4,000 years of God's plan of salvation (they all have never heard it), those who were never called since the day of Pentecost until the time of Christ's Second Coming, and those yet to be born during the Millennium.

This is not something that could ever be done by any man or organization

of men. Only God, at the beginning of the Last Great Day, can resurrect the dead who were never called and who never heard the Gospel and be given the opportunity to hear it, believe and repent. Each and every man who has ever lived has to have heard it and believed it and for them to believe it their mind must be open to accept and not immediately reject spiritual truth. This can only be done by God.

God the Father is the only one who can open the minds of men to accept spiritual truth. The Gospel is spiritual truth which unless called by God is foolishness to men.

God's spiritual nation which is a little flock invisible to the world made up of the little people of the world has no commission as well as no ability whatsoever to preach the Gospel to the world. The Great Commission was given only to the apostles.

18. The Many False Churches of God

Religion; since the beginning of times it would seem, has been men's favorite means of controlling and exploiting people. Religions of different kinds have existed since the creation of mankind. False churches of God have existed since the beginning of God's one true Church. All churches make the claim they are true churches worshiping the true God; otherwise, why would people join them?

This is why God tells Christians to prove all things for many (not a few) false prophets are gone out into the world. Their goal is to financially exploit those they can get to follow them because of their great love (lust) for money.

2Pe 2:1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

2Pe 2:2 And **many shall follow** their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

2Pe 2:3 And through covetousness shall they with feigned words **make merchandise of you**: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

It should be no surprise to us that the words "church of God" has become a very popular name found somewhere in the title of very many churches in our days. We have the Global Church of God, the Restored Church of God, the Living Church of God, the Philadelphia Church of God, the In-

ternational Church of God and many other ones. But, which one if any of them, is God's one true church?

The answer is, and I know many will disagree, that it is none of them.

As has already been mentioned, God in NT times is no longer sending prophets to speak to His nation. A prophet is someone who speaks on behalf of God. They are God's spokesmen but as per Heb 1:1-2, there are none in NT times. God's speaks to His church, His spiritual nation of Israel by His Son the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman.

Conversion is a process that goes on in the mind. It is initiated by the holy spirit God the Father. Those who commit themselves to obeying God in all things as best they can, are then taught all things by the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman as they study God's holy Bible. Understanding of the Scriptures is given them by the holy spirit God the Word sharing thoughts from His mind to the minds of God the Father's called and chosen ones.

God does not have many "true" churches with significant doctrinal differences that all steadfastly refuse to change and which keep them apart.

Are there sincere people who are part of these false churches of God? There may be but if they are really sincere, God will show them some of the erroneous teachings of these churches and they will then have to make a decision. Do I stay here where I've grown to be comfortable and have my friends and social group or do I leave to remain with God's truth?

2Co 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers:
for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness?
and what communion hath light with darkness?

1Th 5:5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the
day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

Eph 5:11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of
darkness, but rather reprove them.

Light is truth and darkness is error; both light and darkness cannot exist together at the same time; it will be one or the other. Sincere Christians who are in the light cannot remain with organizations that are in the dark. If they do, then they are of the darkness and not of the light. There is no in-between state possible. Sincere Christians cannot stay in the dark and remain true Christians.

19. Covet to Prophecy

God encourages all true Christians to prophecy. The 2 following verses are from Paul to the Thessalonians and to the Corinthians respectively.

1Th 5:20 Despise not prophesyings.

1Co 14:39 Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophecy, and forbid not to speak with tongues.

Propheying between Christians has the meaning of having spiritual fellowship. All Christians have minds empowered by the holy spirits of the God family to read their Bible and get knowledge and understanding from it. They, and not men, are the teachers of truly converted Christians.

When other truly converted Christians are known — which is not very often — they are to assemble with them and prophecy. They are to share with them the knowledge and understanding they have gotten from their personal Bible study as a means of ensuring they are not in error. Some findings will be found to be correct, others may be found to be erroneous, and still, the conclusion may be that others require more study. In some cases, questions about certain understandings may never be resolved.

All of this is to be done in an orderly fashion and with the intent of improving everybody's knowledge and understanding of the Bible. What it means for a Christian to prophecy has been extensively covered in the following study: [Who CAN Feed the Flock?](#) starting on page 14.

Christians' fellowship is with God the Father and God the Word, and with other truly converted Christians when some are known.

1Jn 1:3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and **truly** our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

During those times of spiritual fellowshiping, these Christians were by themselves. There were no ministers supervising or moderating their discussions nor was it necessary that they be any. Ministers, even true ones in God's First Century church, didn't have special and exclusive knowledge of the Scriptures over and above what God is directly giving on an individual basis to His called and chosen ones.

All called and chosen ones face the same challenge of having to grow in knowledge and understanding of the Scriptures by their own personal studies of the Bible. Growth is essential for salvation.

Mat 25:24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:

Mat 25:25 And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.

Mat 25:26 His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

Mat 25:27 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.

Mat 25:28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.

Mat 25:29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.

Mat 25:30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

The servant who had received only one talent did not lose his salvation because he only had one talent; no, he lost it because he did not grow his talent. At the time of conversion, we all receive a certain number of talents or knowledge which we must increase by studying God's holy Bible. Salvation requires growth in knowledge and understanding acquired by our personal studies and through spiritual fellowships with other truly converted Christians when some are known.

Salvation does not depend on how much knowledge and understanding a Christian has of the truths of the Bible but on him growing whatever amount of knowledge he was given at the time of his conversion when called by the holy spirit God the Father.

20. Study

God's command to truly converted Christians is to study.

2Ti 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Pro 4:5 Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth.

Pro 4:7 Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

Pro 16:16 How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!

Christians are not commanded to sit in a hall listening uncritically to men claiming to have truth not otherwise accessible to God's called out ones; none of them do. Christians are to study their Bible. They all have minds empowered by the in-dwelling of the holy spirit God the Father and of the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman to gain knowledge and understanding of the Scriptures through their personal studies of God's holy Bible.

21. The Ministry of God's Spiritual Nation or NT Church

Christians are God's Church royal priesthood offering themselves daily as living sacrifices to God dying to their previous life of sin (their old man) and striving to live in newness of life (the new man) which is to obey God in all things to the best of their ability.

1Pe 2:9 But ye [truly converted Christians of God's spiritual nation] are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

God the Father's called and chosen ones, individually and personally, are God's royal priesthood, God's holy nation, God's spiritual nation.

1Pe 2:10 Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God:[God's spiritual nation] which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

Truly converted Christians are the living stones of God's spiritual house or holy temple in which God and the Word live. They are God's holy priesthood offering themselves as spiritual sacrifices to God dying daily to their previous life of sin and trying as best they can to live in newness of life which is to obey God as best they can.

1Pe 2:5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

This is further confirmed in Rom 12:1 where Paul says truly converted Christians are God's holy and living sacrifices acceptable to Him.

Rom 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a **living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God**, which is your reasonable service.

They are daily putting to death their old man of sin and striving to live in newness of life trying to obey God in all things as best they can.

Rom 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk **in newness of life**.

Col 3:9 Lie not one to another, seeing that **ye have put off the old man** with his deeds;

Col 3:10 And **have put on the new man**, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

They are the temple of God and God's spiritual nation.

2Co 6:16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for **ye are the temple of the living God**; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be **my people**.

Christians are new creatures, a new creation in Christ, a spiritual creation, they are God's workmanship not men's.

2Co 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: **[creation]** old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Eph 2:10 For we are his workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus** unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

1Co 3:9 For we are labourers together with God: ye are **God's husbandry**, ye are **God's building**.

God is the one doing the building and He is the one watching over the growth and development of His faithful called and chosen ones.

Final Words

These fundamental Bible truths will hopefully prove useful to you as you study your Bible. Of course, you have to make sure to prove with your Bible all that has been said in this study. It is your only sure source of truth and protection from false prophets.

And, as mentioned at the beginning of this study, there are many other studies on this Web site where the principles outlined in this study have been explained in great detail. All you have to do is to methodically, carefully and patiently go through all of them.

My only goal is to share the knowledge and understanding that I have and which may be useful to you. God's church is a spiritual nation whose members are called and chosen by the holy spirit God the Father and who are being taught all things by the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman. God is working on an individual and personal basis with all truly converted Christians as they study God's holy Bible.

Not everyone is being revealed the same truths at the same time and this is where through spiritual fellowship (prophesying) true Christians can increase and improve their understanding of the Bible. It is something that all Christians are to covet.

1Co 14:39 Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues.

This is the very purpose of the studies posted on this web site. It is a form of spiritual fellowship made possible by modern technology.

God's spiritual nation is not under the government of any man nor has it ever been nor is it any organizations of men led by men who supposedly are being given knowledge and understanding of the Bible, not otherwise available to Christians, for them to teach to Christians.

The holy spirits of the God family are the one and only true teachers of God's spiritual nation.

Don't put your faith in any man or in any organizations of men claiming to be churches of God, do yourself prove all things, reject what is false and do keep what is good.

