

The True Teachers of God's Church

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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.

Across the centuries of mankind's existence, there has been no lack of men who say they have a special relationship with God who reveals truth to them that they are to teach to men. But is God working through specially selected men to teach men His spiritual truth? Let's see what the Bible tells us about who He is using as teachers.

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? Cliffs Notes Version](#) and [Who or What is the Holy Spirit?](#)

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A great many of the members of the Worldwide Church of God (WCG) under the leadership of Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong (HWA) were overwhelmed by his charisma and by his speaking and writing skills. He became, rather than the Bible, their standard of truth. After His death in January of 1986, a great priority was placed on maintaining his writings and sermons which were all considered not to contain any possible doctrinal errors. This documentation and sermon tapes became their criterion of truth. The saying became: "If Mr. Armstrong did not write or say it, it cannot possibly be true."

HWA had often told his followers that he was only human and that it was possible he could be mistaken in some of the things he taught but seemingly most didn't believe him, and they placed their full trust in him rather than in their Bible. Their proof of the truthfulness of a doctrine is what he taught, not what the Bible says. Admittedly, his teachings are based on the Bible but where the problem lies is that, and I know this will make his loyal followers gasp in horror, he did not understand it all correctly. This can be easily and clearly demonstrated to those for whom HWA is not their idol. ([Truths Ex-WCGers Will NOT Accept](#))

HWA had many things right but our criterion of truth has to be the Bible. We have to be able to prove things out with our Bible. The Bible, not HWA, is the sure word of God and the only real way we can sort truth from error and protect ourselves from the many false prophets in the world and from those which the Bible very clearly tells us would arise among God's very elect.

Act 20:17 And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the **elders of the church**.

Act 20:30 Also of your own selves **[the elders]** shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.

Please note I am not by any means saying or implying HWA was a false prophet but we all have to recognize he was just a man and subject to making mistakes as we all are. Perfection is not of this world.

HWA taught that God's truth entered the church through him and that God always had worked through one man at a time to prevent the creation of doctrinal confusion. In Old Testament times, God had an unconverted physical nation as His church, Israel which remains unconverted to this day. But, since the day of Pentecost, God's nation is a fully converted spiritual nation. How can that be? It's simple, if after having been called and chosen one doesn't remain converted, he ceases to be part of God's spiritual nation. The truly converted are pleasing God and not any man or organization of men. They were called and chosen by God, it was not the doing of any man or organization of men, and they are serving God as they try to live their lives as best they can in accordance with the truth they have been given to know by God, not men.

This does not mean that truly converted men can never be useful to other truly converted men when it comes to improving each other's understanding of the Bible. This is what happens through the process of spiritual fellowshiping which all truly converted Christians are to have a great desire to do. However, none of them can be considered as having absolute truth which all are to uncritically accept. It always remains the responsibility of all to prove all things with their Bible before believing what they hear no matter who says it.

Truth enters the minds of truly converted Christians by the holy spirit God the Father, while being called and through the holy spirit God the Word once chosen as they study God's holy Bible and as they have spiritual fellowship with other truly converted Christians when some are known. As Christ told His disciples, none of them are to consider themselves as being the spiritual father of anyone or their master (teacher we would say today).

Mat 23:8 But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren.

Christians have only one teacher, Christ. This is why Christ after His res-

urrection and ascension to His Father is the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman who teaches all things to God the Father's called and chosen ones. This is all fully explained in the Preamble at the beginning of this study and in the studies listed at the bottom of the Preamble.

Christians are all brothers; the only one who can be in authority over them in their lives is Christ who is their teacher not any man or organization of men.

Mat 23:9 And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.

Christians are not to call any man their spiritual father. Their having been called and chosen is something which was done by God the Father and He is the only one who can do it. It is not the doing of any man or organization of men. GOD IS NOT CALLING MEN TO SALVATION BY USING MEN AS HIS TOOL OR INSTRUMENT TO DO SO.

Mat 23:10 Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ.

In Matt 23: 10 Christ repeats to His disciples that they, and all truly converted Christians throughout the ages, have only one Master or teacher, Himself, Christ. Christ, not men, is the teacher of truly converted Christians.

Mat 23:11 But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

The whole chapter of Mat 23 is about Christ telling His disciples not to be like the scribes and the Pharisees who considered themselves to be the great and to be highly respected teachers of God's law that no one is to question. Christians have only one master or teacher and that is Christ not men.

Christ emphasizes to His disciples that their greatness as a Christian is not in striving to be seen as a great teacher of God's truth and to seek to be noticed and praised by men as the Pharisees were doing but in helping other truly converted Christians who may at times need encouragement or who may be in need of physical help.

Jas 2:14 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?

Jas 2:15 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food,

Jas 2:16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?

Jas 2:17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

Christians are to be ready to help fellow Christians as it is in their power to do so; they are not to ignore a brother in need and simply wish him well. Helping other Christians is part of the works that Christians are to have. It is a visible manifestation of their faith.

Mat 23: 8-11 allows us to see in a very different light organizations of men who have set themselves up as the teachers of God's truth and as the spiritual fathers of those who follow them. Mat 23 and other Scriptures we will examine make it clear that in NT times there is no single man or organization of men who are, individually or collectively, the means used by God to reveal spiritual truth to truly converted Christians.

The following verses of the book of Hebrews make this evident?

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 OT times when God had a physical nation He spoke to them by the messengers or prophets He sent them but in these last days which began on the day of Pentecost, God is speaking to truly converted Christians by His Son, by whom He made the worlds (spiritual and physical).

Please notice, God did not make the worlds by a thing called the holy spirit; He made the worlds by His Son.

Let's continue. Do we have any other Bible verses where we are given basically the same message that is, that God speaks to His spiritual nation by His Son, but with more details.

Joh 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Christ says that those who love Him are those who are keeping His commandments and that this is what God the Father would do for them?

Joh 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he [God the Father] shall give you [Christ's disciples and true Christians] another Comforter, [like me, Christ] that he may abide with you for ever;

Christ was the Comforter who was with His disciples and who explained to them the parables that He spoke that the crowds who followed Him could not understand (Mat 13: 10-11) as they were not being called. This Comforter would be with them forever. How can that be?

He would be with Christians while they were alive and forever with them in God's Kingdom after their resurrection to immortal spirit life.

Joh 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye [my disciples] know him; for he [the Comforter the Father will send] dwelleth with you, [my disciples] and shall be in you. [after my ascension to my Father when I will resume my role as the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman who teaches all things to God the Father's called and chosen ones.]

This Comforter is even or also the spirit of truth whose existence the unconverted world cannot accept because it is not something they can know with their physical senses (see, touch, hear, etc.). It is a spirit being. And, it is something they cannot know because they are not called and God is not revealing the existence of this spirit Comforter to them. But, YOU, my disciples (and true Christians) know him.

How did they know him?

Because he (I, Christ) who presently dwells with you shall also in the future, be in you. How would He be in them? Christ the Comforter would be in them after His resurrection, glorification and ascension to His Father where He would resume His role in God the Father's salvation process for mankind as the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman who teaches all things to God the Father's called and chosen ones.

The next verse makes it plain for those who have the eyes to see that Christ is the promised Comforter who was to come and be in His disciples and all true Christians after His ascension to his Father.

Joh 14:18 I [Christ] will not leave you [my disciples and all true Christians] comfortless [without a Comforter]: I [Christ] will come to you.

Christ, the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman after His resurrection and ascension to God the Father, would come to His disciples and all true Christians through the ages and be forever with them after their resurrection as immortal spirit beings and members of God's Kingdom.

Why would He come to them and how would he Comfort them?

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

Christ as the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman after His ascension to His Father, will teach His disciples and all true Christians "all things." In other words, He is the means by which they will be given understanding of the spiritual truths of the Bible. No one will be given understanding of everything nor is it necessary for their salvation that they have a complete understanding of all the truths of the Bible. The parable of the talents (Mat 25: 14-30) makes that evident. The servant with 1 talent lost his salvation because he did not make any effort to increase it, not because he only had one talent. Salvation requires that all of use grow the talent(s) we received at the time of our calling and put into practice in our lives as much as we can the truth given us.

Let's look at some more Scriptures.

Joh 6:44 No man can come to me, [Christ] except [unless] the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I [Christ, the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman] will raise him up at the last day. [at the time of the Great White Throne Judgment which takes place at the end of the Last Great Day]

How does the conversion process begin and who continues it? Is it something that results from what men or organizations of men do?

God very clearly tells us that no man can call another man which is to say, no man can come to Christ except he is first drawn by God the Father. Being drawn by God the Father is the spiritual begettal process. It is a conception process, spiritual in this instance, similar to when a woman is first pregnant. A life has started in her womb but its birth into the world will require a 9 month period of growth. Conception and birth

are 2 different processes. Those drawn by God the Father and who follow their calling become spiritually conceived Christians who will only be actually born by being resurrected from the dead and becoming immortal spirit beings.

Christ showed us the way by being the first flesh-and-blood human being to be born again by a resurrection from the dead to immortal spirit life.

Col 1:18 And he [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.

Rom 1:3 Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; **[Christ was from the tribe of Judah]**

Rom 1:4 And declared to be **the Son of God** with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by **the resurrection from the dead**:

Christ was resurrected by God the Father and given back the glory that He had with the Father with whom He lived in eternity before voluntarily accepting to become a man born of woman subject to the second death if He ever would have sinned. God the Word accepted to suffer and die the horribly painful death of being crucified that the will of God the Father may be fulfilled for a perfect sacrifice for the sins of mankind. This perfect sacrifice would then make it possible for men upon being called, repenting, believing and remaining faithful unto the end of their lives, to become part of God's kingdom by a resurrection from the dead at the appointed time. God the Word, who for a time was the man Jesus Christ, made possible God the Father's plan of salvation for mankind.

After having accomplished His mission, God the Father restored Christ to the glory He had before becoming a man.

Joh 17:5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

Since Christ's ascension to His Father, He is the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman who teaches all things to God the Father's called and chosen ones (John 14:26).

The True Shepherd

God has a lot to say about men who present themselves as shepherds and then proceed to abuse and exploit the sheep (those who follow them) to satisfy their lust for fame, power and money.

Jer 3:14 Turn, O backsliding children, saith the LORD; for I am married unto you: and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion:

Israel, the Northern Kingdom after the death of Solomon and Judah, the Southern Kingdom were committing spiritual adultery by worshipping idols (Jer 3:9). Both kingdoms went into captivity because of their idolatry and failure to keep the Sabbath (Ez 20: 24). God tells them to turn which is to say "repent." To those who repent, He says He will give them true pastors or shepherds.

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

Who are the pastors according to God's heart that can give knowledge **and** understanding to those who repent? Can it be men? Men are not the source of God's spiritual truth; they are not born knowing it and neither can they give men understanding of it (Mat13: 10-11). And, since God gave mankind absolute free moral agency, it means that He will not force anyone to be a faithful pastor. Therefore, the pastors according to God's heart who will never abuse and exploit the sheep that God will give to those who repent cannot be men.

What were the false shepherds doing with God's sheep?

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 34:3 Ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed: but ye feed not the flock.

Eze 34:4 The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which

was lost; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them.

Eze 34:5 And they were scattered, because there is no shepherd: and they became meat to all the beasts of the field, when they were scattered.

Eze 34:9 Therefore, O ye shepherds, hear the word of the LORD;

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.

Christ in the following verses of the book of John clearly tells us that all those who came before him were not true shepherds.

Joh 10:1 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

Joh 10:2 But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

Joh 10:3 To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.

Joh 10:4 And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.

Joh 10:5 And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.

Joh 10:6 This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them.

Joh 10:7 Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.

Joh 10:8 All **that ever came before me are thieves and robbers**: but the sheep did not hear them.

Joh 10:9 I am the door: [John 6:44; 14: 26] by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

Joh 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

Joh 10:11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

Basically, God is telling us that men cannot be relied on to be faithful shepherds and not use their authority and influence over the sheep (those who follow them) as a means for them to make money. The only true shepherd that will seek to do good to the sheep is Christ.

The Head of God's Church

The churches of this world all have a man as their leader or head but what about God's one true Church? Is there some man who is its spiritual leader and through whom God's truth is made known to church members?

Eph 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as **Christ is the head of the church**: and he is the saviour of the body.

Col 1:18 And he [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.

The head of the Church then is clearly Christ who since His ascension is the holy spirit God the Word. And as we have seen, there is only one teacher and one pastor of God's church, Christ. Do any of the verses we have looked at so far allow us to think that God leads and teaches His church through a man or organizations of men?

No, men are unreliable and God will not force them to be faithful shepherds. No man can be the link between God and those called by God.

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

All those called and chosen by the holy spirit God the Father are taught by the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman. So, how can God who is a spirit being, invisible and unknowable by men's 5 physical senses,

teach men?

The Spirit in Man

The several churches of God that are offshoots of the Worldwide Church of God (WCG), and the WCG itself when it existed, are all based on the erroneous understanding that God is unable to communicate directly with men except through men who He has specially chosen to be His intermediaries.

But, as we have just seen, there are no possible human intermediaries between men and God. In practical terms, this means that God's church is not and cannot be an organization of men with a man as its spiritual leader through which supposedly God makes truth available to His church. This further means that God's Church in NT times will not be found in any organizations of men. God's church and nation is spiritual and if spiritual, not physical. More to come later in this study on this aspect of what is God's Church.

So how does God call men to salvation and how does He teach them?

Let's continue our analysis.

1Co 2:9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart [mind] of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

God's spiritual truth cannot be known through men's physical senses: by their ears or their eyes.

So, how did men who say they have God's truth to teach to others learn it? If they learned it by God giving it to them — and there is no other way — how is it that others also called and chosen by God are not also being given God's truth by God and have to learn it from them? They don't.

1Co 2:10 But God hath revealed them unto us [the apostles and all truly converted Christians; not just some] by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

All truly converted Christians have the holy spirit God the Father and the holy spirit God the Word dwelling in them revealing to them God's spiritual truth; not just certain men who supposedly would then be the teachers of God's called and chosen ones, His church.

Joh 14:23 Jesus answered and said unto him, **If a man love**

me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

Why will Christ and God dwell in all true Christians and not just some, the ones who say they are their teachers?

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

So, if NO MAN can know the things of God but by the holy spirit which is in him then why would it be necessary for them to have men as their teachers of God's truth? ALL MEN are given to know God's spiritual truth by the spirit of God. This of course is talking about those called and chosen by God the Father not of men who have not yet been called.

The holy spirit of God which is in all men called and chosen by God, not just some of them, is the link between God who is a spirit and men who are physical material beings. And, this link is made possible by the mind power given man's animal brain by a spiritual element God placed in him which the Bible calls the spirit in man. Without this spiritual element in man's animal brain, men would be just like all the other animals created by God with whom there is no possibility for God to teach them spiritual truth. Their existence and functioning is on the whole controlled by instinct; their brains have no mind power.

1Co 2:12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are **freely** given to us of God.

God **FREELY** gives His called and chosen ones, His spiritual truth. God's truth is not given to God's called and chosen ones by men who have appointed themselves as their teachers and who are preaching for money. There are no men who can be the intermediaries between God and His called and chosen ones and to whom God's saints have to give money.

1Co 2:13 Which things **[the spiritual truth of God]** also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, **[God's spiritual truth is not something that can be made understandable to men by the simple power of words]** but which the Holy Ghost **[spirit]** teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. **[Acceptance and understanding of God's spiritual truth is by the holy spirit God the Word who teaches all things to God the Father's called and chosen ones.]**

1Co 2:14 But the natural man [unconverted] 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.

It is impossible for men to accept and come to understand God's truth but by God, not men, revealing them to them.

1Co 2:11 gives us the link, the means used by God to teach men. God is able to directly communicate with His called and chosen ones by the spirit in man which gives man's animal brain mind power. God FREELY reveals His spiritual truth to them by sharing thoughts from His mind to their minds as they study their Bible. The teaching of God's truth is not a money making business.

This is how God and the Word are the faithful shepherds who will never abuse the sheep and this is how the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman is the one true shepherd teaching spiritual truth to His sheep who will never exploit them to satisfy His own needs; it will be for their benefit.

All truly converted Christians are taught all things by the holy spirits of the Godhead. They are first taught by the holy spirit God the Father at the time of their calling and once chosen they are taught all things by the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman and there is no cost (money) whatsoever.

Men as Teachers

The best time in human history when men could have been teachers is in the days of the apostles who had been personally trained by Christ. If anyone should have been able to teach it would have been them. But, what does Paul say about his ability to teach spiritual truth to men.

1Co 3:3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?

1Co 3:4 For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?

1Co 3:5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even [as the Lord gave to every man?](#)

The reason why those who heard Paul believed anything of what he said was "... as the Lord gave to every man." It was not because of the great

clarity with which Paul spoke or because of any great ability he might have had to persuade others.

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

Any increase in knowledge and understanding that may have been gotten by those who heard Paul and the other ministers was God's doing. It was not because either one of them had any ability to open the minds of those who heard them to accept and understand spiritual truth.

And, furthermore, Paul plainly says that he — other ministers and any man for that matter — has no power to force men to believe something they have not themselves chosen to believe.

2Co 1:24 Not for that we have dominion [\[can force you to believe what we teach\]](#) over your faith [\[what you choose to believe\]](#), but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand.

Mankind was given absolute free moral agency by God. This is why Paul says that they stand by their faith which is to say, they are and continue to be members of God's church by those truths of God they have freely chosen to believe which is to say that no one can force them to believe against their will.

No man has the power to open men's mind so that they can be given knowledge of God's spiritual truth, and the opportunity to choose to accept it or not.

Even the apostles had a very limited role in God's plan of salvation for mankind and they had spent 3 1/2 years with Christ. More than 1,900 years after Christ's First Coming, what role can men who were never and will never be personally trained by Christ possibly have in the administration of God's plan of salvation?

According to Heb1:1-2, John 6: 44; Mat 13: 10-11, John 14: 26, and 1Co2: 10-11 men are not the teachers of God's spiritual truth. It is a process that goes on in the mind of those called by God the Father who through God the Word and Spokesman gives them understanding of the spiritual truths of the Bible as they study it.

Each and every one of God's saints were called by the holy spirit God the Father and those who knowingly and freely followed their calling are being taught all things by the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman as they study their Bible and as they fellowship with other truly converted Christians when some are known.

Salvation is a process that goes on between God and men with Christ as their one and only intermediary or mediator between them and God.

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

Christians' fellowship is with God and the Word, and with other truly converted Christians and Christ, who since His ascension to His Father is the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman.

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.

When truly converted Christians fellowship with each other they are through each other fellowshipping with God from whom they have received the spiritual truths they have been given to understand.

Christ is the author and finisher of Christians' faith, not men.

Heb 12:2 Looking unto Jesus 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.

It originated with Christ and it will be completed by Christ. There is no man or organization of men standing between God and men who can be the author and finisher of Christians' faith.

The only possible true teachers of God's church are the holy spirit God the Father and the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman.

What is God's Church? — A Refresher

Since the day of Pentecost, God has been building His **spiritual** temple whose living stones are God's called and chosen ones.

Zec 4:6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

1Pe 2:5 Ye [**truly converted Christians**] also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, [**God's temple**] an holy priesthood, [**True Christians are the priests of God's spiritual temple**] to offer up spiritual sacrifices, [**which is Christians**

every day working at putting to death their old man of sin and living in newness of life] acceptable to God by [through] Jesus Christ.

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.

Rom 6:6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

God's temple or church in which God the Father and God the Son live is made up of all truly converted Christians who are God's spiritual nation wherever they may be in the world. God's temple is not a physical building as it was in the days of ancient Israel to which the people went to be taught the law by the Levitical priests nor is it a PHYSICAL ORGANIZATION OF MEN CLAIMING TO BE GOD'S CHURCH.

In NT times, God's temple, God's nation and God's church are one. The members of God's spiritual nation are the living stones of God's spiritual temple. They are God's Church.

The link between God and God the Word, and truly converted Christians, is spiritual. God and the Word are the holy spirit beings teaching them as they study their Bible. Christians' relationship with God is through Christ and the spiritual link that binds them together as God's holy nation and temple is the spiritual truth of God they have been given to know by God the Father and God the Word, THEIR ONLY TRUE TEACHERS.

God's nation is spiritual as it is something that occurs in the mind as a result of the work of 2 spirit beings. A change in attitude from being in opposition to God to one of wanting to obey Him in all things to the best of our abilities. This change of attitude could only have been made possible by God. He is the One who offers this possibility to men who then have to freely and without anybody or anything forcing them to do so, agree or not to submit themselves to Him in all things.

In closing, I would like to say something about Christian fellowshiping.

Christian Fellowshiping

God's church is spiritual and its true teachers are the holy spirit God the Father and the holy spirit God the Word. Truly converted Christians are commanded to have spiritual fellowship which in the Bible is called "prophesying."

1Th 5:20 Despise not prophesyings.

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

Detailed explanations are given in the following study about what it means to prophesy according to your Bible: [How Much Knowledge is Needed for Salvation?](#) Please take the time to go through it if you have not already done so.

For you to understand what will be said in the following paragraphs, I will give you a short summary of what it means to prophesy.

Basically, a prophet is one who speaks on behalf of another. It is what today we would call a spokesman. When Christians have spiritual fellowship they are speaking on behalf of God in this sense that they are sharing with others the truths God has revealed to them. They are not acting as great and awesome teachers of God's truth; they're simply sharing with fellow Christians the truths God has given them. Those hearing them are under no obligation to believe what they say but they do have to check it out with their Bible before rejecting it. God's truth sometimes can sound very strange considering what we are currently believing but no matter how strange it might seem to us, it doesn't mean it is not God's truth. You first have to prove with your Bible whether what you are hearing is false or not before rejecting it.

If you cannot do so, then you should be accepting it. Refusing to accept something even when it is correctly supported by your Bible means that other things than your Bible are your criteria of truth. Whether that other thing is your unshakable belief in the teachings of a man who greatly impresses you or because of past beliefs you have from time you spent in one of the many false religions of this world, the result is the same. You have an idol standing between you and God. That idol is either a man in whom you have put all your trust or it is yourself who refuses to abandon your false beliefs which you consider to be more important than God's truth.

Let's be clear, no man can be the great and mighty teacher of God's truth which all are to believe. It is up to individual Christians to sort truth from error using their only sure source of truth, their Bible. If you have never gotten into the habit of proving all things, then now may be a good time for you to start doing so. Proving all things is not a one time thing; it is to be an ongoing and continuing process. Your knowledge and understanding of God's truth and that of your fellow Christians will

always be a work in progress. Over the years, as we study God's Bible and God gives us more understanding, some of our previous beliefs will have to change as we now know they were mistakes. It is the same situation for all Christians which is why all of us have to always be proving all things BEFORE rejecting them and, we all have to be ready to change when proven wrong which is not something that's easy to do but which all of us must do no matter how painful it may be for us to do so.

The primary and one and only goal of the studies posted on this site is to be a form of spiritual fellowship with other truly converted Christians. It is basically a sharing of the knowledge and understanding of the truth that I have after having been 40 years in God's church. Some of the things I originally believed, I have found through study, meditation and prayer to have been mistakes and possibly, in the future, I may find some of my current understandings to have been mistakes as God gives me more understanding.

God does not take into account good faith errors which are those made by those who are honestly seeking to grow their knowledge and understanding of the truth (1Co3:15). But, He does hold responsible those who refuse to grow the knowledge they were given as made plain in the parable of the talents (Mat25:30). Having to accept to change when proven wrong is the correction from God that all His sons must endure.

Heb 12:6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

Heb 12:7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

Heb 12:8 But if ye be without [\[refuse\]](#) chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

Refusing to accept to be corrected by the Bible results in loss of salvation.

So occupy while the master is away, (Luke 19:13), be about your Father's business (Luke 2:49), grow in knowledge and understanding of God's spiritual truth (2Pe3:18). Knock (Mat7:7); seek (Luke 11:9), thirst and hunger for righteousness (Mat5:6) and YOU WILL FIND IT.

