

God's Spiritual Nation

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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 Old Testament times, God had a physical nation, Israel. It is to that nation that Christ came at His First Coming. In New Testament times, God has a spiritual nation. The question that arises is how can flesh-and-blood men become a spiritual nation? Who creates this nation, where does it live, who are its members and how do they honor and worship God? Let's see what answers the Bible gives us.

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

God is a Family

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bible Writing Convention

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

Whenever we encounter the expressions the "Holy Spirit" or simply the

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

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

Making Things Clearer

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

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

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

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There continues to be a great deal of confusion as to how God's Church is spiritual and not an organization put together by men who claim to be the ones who really understand God's holy Bible and who think they have a commission to be teachers.

God had chosen Israel and it was thus His kingdom. The disciples and the people did not understand that the kingdom God had in mind was not an earthly kingdom but one consisting of human beings who have been born as immortal spirit beings by a resurrection from the dead and who fully share in the very nature of God. God had told ancient Israel that they were to be a kingdom of priests and holy nation unto Him.

Exo 19:5 Now therefore, if ye [Israel] will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine:

Exo 19:6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

Based on Ex19:6, it made sense that the disciples and the people of Israel would think of themselves as being God's Kingdom. This is also what the disciples thought as borne out by the following verse of the book of Acts.

Act 1:6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

Act 1:6 makes it plain that the disciples, the Scribes and the Pharisees and the people all thought God's kingdom was the nation of Israel and that the Christ or Messiah when he came to Israel, and which they (the disciples) knew to be Jesus, would restore Israel to being a free, sovereign nation. Israel was then under Roman occupation.

They were not entirely wrong but for one thing, the physical nation of Israel was a kingdom chosen by God and in that sense, it indeed was God's Kingdom but it was not really what God meant when He spoke about the kingdom of God. This is something Christ did not explain to the disciples and this is why they asked Him if He would restore Israel to being a free country as it was before. All they had at that time were the Old Testament Scriptures. Paul's conversion, and his writings that we have today as part of the New Testament, came only after Christ's ascension.

The disciples did not yet have the information provided us by Paul that who is the nation of Israel would change after the passage of Christ.

Rom 2:28 For he is not a Jew, [\[a member of the nation of Israel\]](#) which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:

Rom 2:29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

He who would be an Israelite, a member of the nation of Israel and of God's Kingdom in embryo would now be someone whose circumcision is of the heart regardless of his nation of origin; he didn't have to be a physical Israelite. This is someone who has been called and chosen by God the Father because he has committed himself to obeying Him as best he can in all things. Rom 2: 29 is the great turning point as to who would be an Israelite. God tells us that His nation would no longer be the physical nation of Israel or any physical nation but that His nation would be a spiritual one made up of anyone from the nations of the world who is called and chosen by God the Father. Physical Israelites would have to become spiritual Israelites to be part of God's NT spiritual nation.

God's spiritual nation of Israel, which in [no way](#) is a group organized and put together by men, began on the day of Pentecost when for the first time since Adam and Eve, and following Christ's perfect sacrifice for sin and His glorification as the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman, salvation would be open to men from the nations of the world who had been predestinated to be called from the foundation of the world.

Eph 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

Eph 1:11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being **predestinated** according to the purpose of him **[God]** who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

Those called and chosen by God from the nations of the world constitute God's Kingdom in embryo which is to say, they have been spiritually begotten (conceived) by God the Father and will be born again by a resurrection from the dead as immortal spirit being and members of God's spiritual and eternal Kingdom.

1Pe 2:9 But ye **[truly converted Christians]** are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an **holy nation**, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him **[God the Father (John 6:44)]** who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

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

Before becoming converted, these men were physical members of nations from all over the world and were they to find themselves together in a given location, they would not constitute a nation, they would continue to simply be members or citizens of other nations. However, when called and chosen by God, though being from the different nations of the world they become a people, God's people and spiritual nation of Israel.

The link and relationship between them and God is spiritual through Christ not through any organization of men.

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

If the essential nature of God's NT nation is spiritual (it is) it cannot at the same time be physical. 1 Pe 2:10 makes that evident. But for being called and chosen, men would still simply continue to be physical citizens of the physical nations in which they were born.

The point I want to make and which is very important for us to understand is that indeed, ancient Israel was God's physical nation but it is not His spiritual nation or kingdom of Israel. Those who are part of God's nation in New Testament times are those who have been called and cho-

sen and who are remaining faithful. Their circumcision is of the heart which is to say, they have committed themselves to obeying God in all things as best they can when they were called.

They presently constitute God's spiritual nation of Israel and God's Kingdom in embryo. And, as previously stated, they are God's spiritually begotten sons (conceived but not yet born) who are to be born again to glorified, immortal spirit existence by a resurrection from the dead and become members of God's eternal, spiritual Kingdom.

The members of God's physical nation of Israel, to be saved, must become part of God's spiritual nation of Israel.

God's Spiritual Nation

God's spiritual nation of Israel is not any organization of men put together by men claiming to have God's truth. God's spiritual nation exists in the heart or minds of those called and chosen by God.

Heb 10:16 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;

God's law written in the minds of God's called and chosen ones is the basis of God's government in the life of truly converted Christians.

Rom 2:29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

Christians are under no obligation whatsoever to please men claiming to be God's ministers. They are not under their authority and there is no requirement whatsoever to be part of their organizations.

NT Christians are to worship God in spirit and in truth not by being part of the churches of men and participating in rituals devised by them.

Joh 4:23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

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

God's spiritual nation or NT Church is all those called and chosen by God from the nations of the world who are obeying God as best they can and

working at growing their knowledge and understanding of God's truth by studying God's holy Bible. After having been called by the holy spirit God the Father they are taught all things by the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman.

Just a few words here before I continue. Many are those who are horrified by the thought that God and the Word are holy spirits. But what could be more simple to understand. God and the Word are spirit beings and God and the Word are holy and this very plainly makes them holy spirits. Let's continue.

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.

Why is it that men have to come to Christ who after His resurrection, glorification and ascension to His Father went back to being the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman? Because He is the member of the God family responsible for teaching all things to God the Father's called and chosen ones. In the following verses of the 14th chapter of the book of John Christ comforts His disciples. He had just celebrated the Pass-over with them and He knew He would soon be taken and crucified. His disciples would be greatly shaken by what was about to happen, so He tells them that another Comforter would come to them.

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

Who is the Comforter?

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

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

The Comforter and spirit of truth that was with the disciples was Christ. After His ascension to His Father, He would be in them and all truly converted Christians through the ages. God and the Word are the ones by whom salvation is made possible not churches of men.

Final Remarks

In the Old Testament or under the Old Covenant, God had a physical nation which He had chosen from the nations of the world to be His nation. It had a physical priesthood which made offerings and sacrifices on behalf of the people and the worship of God was by performing repetitive, laborious, physical and symbolic rituals which never forgave sin and never made salvation possible.

Since the day of Pentecost, God has a new nation whose determining characteristic is to be spiritual. Each and everyone of its members has a direct relationship with God the Father through God the Word. They are not being taught by men nor do they seek to please men nor are they part of any organizations established by men. Their worship of God is in spirit and in truth.

Joh 4:23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

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

They try to obey God as best they can based on the knowledge and understanding they have been given by God of the spiritual truth contained in the Bible. No man can judge them, they are God's servants, God is their only judge.

Rom 14:4 Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.

God is our master and we are His servants.

Being disfellowshipped from churches of men does not result in loss of salvation. As long as Christians maintain their attitude of wanting to obey God in all things and are working at growing the knowledge of the truth given them at the time of their conversion by studying their Bible, they are part of God's spiritual nation and they will become members of God's Kingdom.

