

The Feast of Trumpets

Observed in Spirit
and in Truth

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by Robert G. Theophilus

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

How are Christians to celebrate God's annual holy days? As truly converted Christians they are part of God's Church which is a spiritual body of which one becomes a member by being called and chosen by God the Father not by becoming a member of any organization of men calling itself God's Church. God is to be worshiped in spirit and in truth not by attending and participating in ritualistic ceremonies.

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 sâme 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 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 pre-eminence.

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 I would like to integrate the notion of worshipping God in spirit and in truth with the requirement to observe God's annual holy days using the feast of Trumpets as an example.

Let's first review how the feast of trumpets is celebrated in New Testament (NT) times.

In ancient Israel, silver trumpets were used to call the people to meetings, etc. and there was also the ram's horn which was only blown when war was imminent. The priests blew the trumpets and the nation had a celebration but without knowing why there was to be a blowing of the trumpets as this was never revealed to them but they were happy to have a celebration nonetheless.

In NT times, trumpets are not blown as there is no priesthood to blow them and trumpets are no longer used as a means of communications or of signaling impending war to a physical nation inhabiting a specific land i.e., the physical nation of Israel. Also, God's nation in NT times is spiritual and not physical; it is made up of converted men from the many nations of the world and they are scattered all over the world. There is no central or headquarters church and no single group in a given geographical location that constitutes "the" Church.

It is a spiritual body not a visible-to-the-world group patterned on the world's administrative and financial requirements for

corporations. This has been the state of existence of God's, one true Church since its foundation on the day of Pentecost. It is important to realize there is no historical continuity between the ancient physical nation of Israel and God's NT spiritual nation of Israel whose members are from the nations of the world, speak different languages, and for the greatest part do not know each other. They don't have any connection to ancient Israel which is the main reason why, the celebration of God's annual holy days as conducted in ancient Israel and which often commemorate events of historical importance to that nation, do not apply to God's NT spiritual nation.

Trumpets looks forward to Christ's 2nd Coming to His people Israel NOT to the world, to restore to them all things.

Act 3:20 And he [\[God the Father\]](#) shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: [\[Israel\]](#)

Act 3:21 Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution [\[restoration\]](#) of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

Act 3:22 For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren [\[Christ was a Jew and a descendant of the House of David and therefore an Israelite\]](#), like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. [\[See Exo 20:18-19 and Deu 18:15-19 below\]](#)

Act 3:23 And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people. [\[Will not become part of God's spiritual nation of Israel.\]](#)

Ancient Israel was gathered at the base of Mount Sinai where God was to speak to them but the people got very scared as stated in the following verses.

Exo 20:18 And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw it, they removed, and stood afar off.

Exo 20:19 And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die.

The people wanted Moses to tell them what God required of them and they would do it. They were afraid that they would die if God were to speak to them directly from the Mount. So, Moses in the Book of Deuteronomy tells them the following:

Deu 18:15 The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee [Israel] a Prophet from the midst of thee, [from among you] of thy brethren, like unto me; [that prophet will be unto them like Moses] unto him ye shall hearken; [they will listen to him]

Deu 18:16 According to all that thou desiredst of the LORD thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not. [Exo 20:19]

Deu 18:17 And the LORD said unto me, [Moses] They have well spoken that which they have spoken.

Deu 18:18 I [God] will raise them up [Israel] a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, [Moses] and will put my words in his mouth; and he [that prophet] shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.

Deu 18:19 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him. [Those Israelites who refuse to follow the words of the prophet God will send to Israel, will not become part of God's spiritual nation of Israel or God's Church; they will lose their salvation.]

These verses of Deu 18 are talking about Christ's 2nd Coming and to whom Christ will come (Israel, His people, not to the world). He is the prophet that God will raise up unto the physical nation of Israel (in the end-time) and this Israel shall hear Him in all things i.e., they will be given access to the holy spirits of the God family and they will be able to understand Christ's teaching to them in its spiritual dimension while for their forefathers, when Christ first came among them, it was impossible for them to do so.

Why?

Joh 7:37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, **If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.**

Joh 7:38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

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

The holy spirit God the Word incarnated as the fully God and fully human Jesus of Nazareth had not yet died as the perfect sacrifice for sin, been resurrected, ascended to His Father and restored to the glory that He had as the holy spirit God the Word. He would from that time on be the Spokesman to God the Father's called and chosen ones. The glorified Jesus is the holy spirit that was not yet given as He had then not yet fulfilled His mission and returned to His Father as God the Word.

As we have just read in Act 3: 20-21, Christ is to remain in heaven until the time of restoration of all things to the physical nation of Israel. They will be taught "**.....all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began**" and any of them that will not hear (believe and obey) that prophet (Christ completing His ministry with Israel (Dan 9:27)) will be destroyed from among the people i.e., they will lose their salvation and not be part of God's spiritual nation of Israel or Church.

This did not occur at the time of Christ's First Coming to Israel.

The people and especially the religious elite of the day, opposed Christ and ultimately put Him to death. So these verses (Acts 3:20-23) are talking about what will happen to Israel (the Israelites scattered among the nations and the Jews in Palestine) at the time of Christ's 2nd Coming. It will be the time of Israel's calling (Rom 11); their opportunity for salvation (for those entering into the New Covenant); and it will also be the time where all those of the end-time remnant of physical Israel that choose to not enter into the New Covenant lose their salvation. All those of end-time Israel (Rom 11) who enter the New Covenant become part of God's holy nation and kingdom of priests in embryo. They are then only begotten or conceived and yet to be born in a resurrection from the dead.

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.

Christ did not come to the world the first time nor is He coming to the world the second time. At His First Coming, He only came for Israel and will again come only for them; the Scriptures are very clear on that. The whole Bible has as its focus the nation of Israel and other nations are only mentioned as they come into contact with it. At His 2nd Coming, Christ will gather the remnant of end-time Israel which will have been scattered in captivity all over the world and resettle them in the Promised Land. He will then spend 3 ½ years confirming the covenant with them (Dan 9:27) and at the end of this 3 ½ year period, all those who enter into the New Covenant (not all of them will; (Mat 22:14)) become part of God's spiritual nation of Israel or God's Church.

At Christ's 2nd Coming, the descendants of ancient Israel will be called and given their chance to be saved but they constitute only a part of the totality of God's spiritual nation of Israel. Physical Israelites living during the Millennium will all be called along with all the Gentile nations and in the Last Great Day, all of mankind that was never called and had died over the centuries, including physical descendants of ancient Israel, will be resurrected to

flesh-and-blood existence and be given their opportunity for salvation. The redeeming of ancient Israel and of the Gentile nations of the world will then be complete at the end of the Last Great Day and the Great White Throne Judgment will then occur.

The WCG taught the following regarding the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets:

“The Feast of Trumpets portrays a pivotal event in God’s plan. This festival not only pictures the coming of Christ to resurrect and change the firstfruits, it also pictures the terrible time of world war just ahead and the intervention of Jesus Christ to save humanity from total annihilation, as well as to establish the Kingdom of God on earth.” (AC BCC 23 of the 32 lesson course)

But, the kingdom of God cannot exist over flesh-and-blood human beings (John 3; 1Cor 15:50). It is made up of spirit beings and only, of spirit beings. This is why Christ told Nicodemus that one must be born again by a resurrection from the dead as a glorified spirit being to see the Kingdom of God (John 3). God will only rule over those who voluntarily submit to Him; the holy spirits of the God family only ever lead, they never force anyone to follow them (Rom 8:14). Many are called; few are chosen (Mat 22:14) and few of the chosen remain faithful (Mat 7:13). Consequently, It would not be possible for the unconverted masses to be taught the true values of life through a massive re-education campaign conducted by spirit teachers as the unconverted are not teachable (Rom 8:7). This is covered extensively in the following study: [Mass Conversion of the Nations during the Millennium?](#)

Christ at His Second Coming will not establish the Kingdom of God on earth. [Will Christ’s Second Coming Change the Current World Order?](#)

Trumpets in NT times anticipate Christ’s 2nd Coming; the gathering and resettlement of end-time Israel into the original Promised Land, Christ’s 3 ½ year ministry to Israel, the making of the New Covenant and the converts of the nation of Israel becoming part of God’s spiritual nation of Israel or God’s Church. Please note that they become [part of](#) God’s NT Church; they are not the totality of God’s Church. For a whole lot more information on this top-

ic, please see the following study: [Administration of God's Plan of Salvation During the Millennium](#)

Trumpets celebrates the foundation of God's Millennial Church which is another critical step in the administration of God's plan of salvation. God's Church will exist during the Millennium and the Last Great Day as it was never to die out. God has been bringing salvation to mankind since the day of Pentecost when the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman entered the disciples and they became the founding members of God's NT spirit-begotten Church, His spiritual nation of Israel. During the Millennium and the Last Great Day, all men will be called and given an opportunity for salvation.

God's Church would always exist but most of the time it would be small and invisible to the world without teachers, pastors, elders, etc. Recall that God's Church are those who are called, chosen and faithful whether by themselves or in little groups of believers. The concept of God's Church as being a large, well-financed organization with a full ministry owning beautifully landscaped properties with impressive, expensive buildings, traveling the world in private jets owned by the Church and being highly visible in the world is not the mode of existence of God's Church according to your Bible. I would refer you to the following study which explores at length what is God's Church: [Who Can Feed God's Flock?](#)

Some will say: "But God's church was never to die out or cease to exist; how can it be necessary to have it re-established at the time of Christ's Second Coming?"

There are 2 main reasons.

Firstly, at the time of Christ's Second Coming, God's Church in existence at that time, becomes the Bride of Christ. They are no longer flesh-and-blood; they become glorified spirit beings who become part of God's Kingdom. There are then no truly converted Christians left on the earth.

Secondly, God chose Israel to be His holy nation and kingdom of priests. OT Israel never was able to fulfill its mission because the

Old Covenant did not include Israel being given access to the holy spirits of the God family which, but for the OT prophets for whom God made an exception, could not be given until Christ was glorified (John 7:39). God separated Himself from ancient Israel because it could not obey Him but He said He would not remain angry with them and would choose them again (Jer 30:11; 46:28; Zech 2:12; Jer 32:37). God chose, rejected and will choose again Israel. All of this is covered in detail in the following study: [When and Why will God Again Choose Israel?](#)

The end-time nations constituting modern Israel will be scattered in captivity across the nations of the world and the remnant of Israel will be gathered by Christ at His Second Coming (Jer 32:37), resettled in the original Promised Land and a New Covenant (Jer 31:31; Heb 8:8) made with those who following Christ's 3 1/2 year ministry to them (Dan 9:27), will commit themselves to obeying God. They then become part of God's holy nation and kingdom of priests in embryo and members of God's spiritual nation of Israel or God's Church.

This is how the gates of hell do not prevail against God's Church according to your Bible (Matt 16:18). And, this is what the Feast of Trumpets represents in NT times for truly converted Christians.

In Spirit and in Truth

A special problem presents itself for New Testament (NT) truly converted Christians. Prior to our conversion, we all understood a church as being an organization of men with priests who held worship services on designated days in a large building with a steeple on top of which was a cross. The people went to the building to be taught by the priests.

Then upon coming into contact with organizations of men calling themselves churches of God, we were exposed to a very similar experience. Church members went to a building, sat in a hall and were taught by men who had been appointed as ministers by men who gave themselves the authority to appoint men as ministers.

This way of doing things was modeled on what occurred in the days of ancient Israel which had a human priesthood, and on the

way God's first century church, existed for a time, with men as evangelists, pastors, teachers, etc. However, it was not intended by God that His church would continue as it existed in the days of the apostles. If it were, He certainly has the power to ensure that there would have been unto our days, an unbroken transmission of the truth taught by Christ to His disciples but this is clearly not what happened. A great persecution which lasted for centuries came upon true Christianity. As a result, truly converted Christians had to flee into the wilderness to escape being imprisoned and/or put to death for their faith. God's First Century Church as it was organized ceased to exist. This occurred for a very specific reason directly related to the way God would administer His plan of salvation for mankind in NT times. There would be significant changes in who are those who are Israelites, in who is their great high priest and in the law.

Heb 7:11 If therefore perfection [the forgiveness of sin] were by the Levitical priesthood, (for under it the people received the law,) what further need was there that another priest should rise after the order of Melchisedec, and not be called after the order of Aaron?

Heb 7:12 For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law.

The law of offerings (see Leviticus chapters 1 to 7) did not forgive sin but in a symbolic manner. Offering sacrifices required by the law for certain offenses made it possible for the lawbreaker to be symbolically forgiven but the trespass was not forgiven by God. Animal sacrifices never truly forgave sin.

Heb 10:4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

This is why a perfect sacrifice acceptable to God the Father was needed for sin to be forgiven by God. Christ came and satisfied God's requirement for a perfect sacrifice and those who would be God's people are no longer flesh born Israelites observing the physical laws and rituals given them by God through Moses. God's people would be spiritual Israelites.

Rom 2:28 For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:

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

He who is a Jew or member of God's spiritual nation of Israel, is he who has been called and chosen by God the Father because when called, he committed himself to obeying God in all things to the best of his abilities. From thereon, he is seeking the praise of God by trying as best he can to obey Him and is not seeking the praise of men by following their ideas of good and evil, and of what is and isn't sin.

God's spiritual law doesn't change and in Heb 7:12 this is not what Paul was talking about. Rather, it is that even though ancient Israel was given the 10 Commandments along with the law of offerings as a means of showing their obedience to God, it remained a never converted nation which could not observe the spirit of God's law. Israel was never given access to the holy spirits of the God family, God and God the Word. Its conversion is yet future to our time.

Ancient Israel could not be given access to the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman who would make it possible for them to understand spiritual truth until after the glorification of Christ.

Joh 7:38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

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

Since Christ's death, resurrection, glorification and ascension to His Father, the requirement for God's spiritual Jews or spiritual Israelites is to observe the law of the 10 Commandments which when applied in its spiritual intent covers all aspects of man's

existence. The problem with ancient Israel is that the people did not know that the offerings commanded in the law and made on behalf of the people by the Levitical priests did not ever really forgive sin. When Christianity began, Paul explained to them that they have a new priesthood, Christ is their great high priest and the law He administers is spiritual and not physical. There is no need to continue making offerings and sacrifices which never actually forgave sin.

Heb 4:14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest,
that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God,
let us hold fast our profession.

God is a spirit and so is the Word and both are holy. This makes them holy spirits something which should be very easy to understand. The holy spirit God the Father calls and chooses men (John 6:44) and the holy spirit God the Word teaches them all things (John 14:26). They are the administrators of salvation for mankind, not men.

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 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 remem-
brance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Who is the Comforter is explained in the Preamble to this study and in the following studies which you can access by clicking on the following hyperlinks with your mouse: [Who or What is the Holy Spirit Cliffs Notes?](#) [Who or What is the Holy Spirit?](#) and [Who is God's Spirit?](#)

Ancient Israel had a physical priesthood and their worship of God was through laborious, repetitive physical and symbolic ceremonies and offerings. However, God since the day of Pentecost, has been calling and choosing men and God the Word has been teaching them which is to say, giving true Christians the correct understanding of the spiritual truth contained in the Bible which otherwise is unknowable.

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

1Co 2:10 But God hath **revealed** them unto us **[truly converted Christians]** by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

The thousands of doctrinally different Christian churches of the world as well as the many different “churches of God” which supposedly all take their teachings and doctrines from the Bible make this self-evident. The understanding of God’s spiritual truth is only by revelation. If God were revealing His spiritual truth to them, there would not be many churches; there would only be one.

Since the day of Pentecost, God has not left to men the task of giving men the correct understanding of the spiritual truths of the Bible. God the Father, while being called and God the Word once chosen, are the ones who teach truly converted Christians who as long as they remain faithful ARE God’s one true Church. Even in the days of the apostles, it was God who was teaching true Christians.

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

This is a very good way of explaining how it is men come to understand the spiritual truth of the Bible. Some of us have gardens. We plant seeds in them and water them as they sprout and grow into flowers or vegetables depending on what we planted. However, what turns the seeds we planted into flowers or vegetables is nothing we do. All we can do is plant and water, we have no power to turn the seeds into flowers and vegetables; it is God who does it as He is the one who created the process which makes this possible.

Gen 1:11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

Gen 1:12 And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

No man has ever created anything as there is no power of creation in men. Man can discover things created by God but he can't, himself, create anything.

Christ made sure or guaranteed God's plan of salvation for mankind by being the perfect sacrifice for sin. The next essential step was correctly teaching the truth to men as God the Father would call them. God the Father would start the process (John 6:44) and God the Word would continue it (John 14:26). It would not be left up to men to do it.

Truly converted Christians would be taught all things by the holy spirits of the God family. First by God the Father while being called then by God the Word and Spokesman if they follow their calling. Individual Christians have a direct relationship with God through Christ.

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

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.

There is no man or organizations of men calling themselves churches who stand between truly converted Christians and God.

Why would that be?

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

That hour came on the day of Pentecost when God's church became a spiritual nation rather than being a physical one.

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

Truly converted Christians worship God in spirit and in truth not through attending and participating in churches of men performing repetitive and symbolic ceremonies and rituals. They are under no obligation to please men; their praise is from God; their attitude is to obey Him in all things.

What does the word “ritual” actually mean. According to the Cambridge dictionary a ritual is “a way of doing something in which the same actions are done in the same way every time.” It is also “a fixed set of actions and words, especially as part of a religious ceremony.” Doesn’t that describe well how worship services are held in the churches of this world and in the many “true” churches of God. The worship of God through physical rituals ended with the foundation of God’s spiritual nation of Israel on the day of Pentecost.

John 4:24 makes it clear that God’s spiritual nation of Israel or God’s Church is not a an organization of men with some of them having appointed themselves or having been appointed by other men to be teachers. It is also clear that there is no requirement whatsoever to be part of organizations of men saying they are the true representatives of God who have been given knowledge of God’s truth only available through them. They are all but men and don’t have privileged access to God’s truth. God the Father and God the Word and Spokesman are working with all truly converted Christians giving them understanding of the spiritual truths of the Bible as they study it.

SALVATION IS A PROCESS SOLELY BETWEEN CALLED OUT MEN AND GOD THROUGH CHRIST.

Joh 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Christ is the way, the mediator between called out men and God; He is the truth, He is the only one who has the truth and who can teach it to God’s called and chosen ones, and this is very important to realize, no man can have access to Christ but through

through God the Father; access is not through organizations of men calling themselves 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.

Once called and chosen, Christ becomes the mediator between truly converted Christians and God the Father.

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

And finally, Christ is the life, the means by which eternal life is attained.

Joh 6:40 And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I [Christ] will raise him up [resurrect him to immortal spirit life] at the last day. [in the Great White Throne judgment at the end of the Last Great Day]

Christ is the one who will resurrect to immortal spirit life all of God's faithful saints; that is how He is "the life" mentioned in John 14: 6 we have just read.

God the Father calls men from the nations of the world and teaches by God the Word those who come to conversion; not by men. The calling out process is something that occurs in the mind of the one being called. God the Father reveals to him sufficient truth for him to realize there is a God and that he has to worship Him by embarking on a lifelong effort to obey Him as best he can in all things and to grow his knowledge of the truth given him the at the time of his calling by studying God's holy Bible on an ongoing basis.

Notice that no men are involved in the process. Jesus is the one who has the truth and is the only one who can teach it to God the Father's called and chosen ones. Since truly converted Christians' relationship with God is spiritual then it follows that it is not something which is of men nor is it something other men can see.

This is why truly converted Christians will not be found in large visible-to-the-world organizations claiming to have a commission to preach the Gospel to the world and to feed God's saints. Christians live invisibly among the unconverted and in most instances, do not know each other. None of my friends and neighbors know or even think for a moment that I am religious.

God's NT saints worship Him in spirit and in truth. God reveals and gives them understanding of the truth as they study their Bible and they apply it as best they can in their lives. That is all that is required for salvation.

Heb 7:12 For the [priesthood being changed](#), there is made of necessity a change also of the law.

In NT times, God's nation is a spiritual body of believers called by the holy spirit God the Father and taught all things by the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman. God's NT nation has a new priesthood who are spirit beings, God and the Word. The law they have to follow as best they can is spiritual. Israel is no longer a physical nation with a physical priesthood offering symbolic physical sacrifices which never forgave sin. And, it is not any physical organization of men calling itself "church of God" with evangelists, pastors, teachers, etc. who were appointed by men who gave themselves the authority to appoint them to these offices of responsibility.

The members of God's spiritual nation of Israel don't have to go anywhere nor be part of any group to be taught by God. The understanding of God's hidden spiritual truth contained in the Bible is only possible by revelation from God.

The Feast of Trumpets

The NT feast of Trumpets refers to the time when salvation will finally be offered to the descendants of the physical nation of Israel returned from its captivity among the Gentile nations. Christ at His Second Coming to Israel will gather Israel from the nations where it had been scattered, resettle them in the original Promised Land and spend 3 1/2 years confirming the covenant with them.

Eze 11:17 Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.

This is the time of the making of the New Covenant God said He would make with them.

Heb 8:8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:

Christ will spend 3 1/2 years teaching Israel (Dan 9:27) and all those entering into the New Covenant will become part of God's spiritual nation of Israel. Not all of them will do so as many are called but few are chosen.

Mat 22:14 For many are called, but few are chosen.

Worshiping God in spirit and in truth is a process where on an individual basis Christians pray, study their Bible to have growth in knowledge and understanding of God's spiritual truths, fellowship with other truly converted Christians when some come to their knowledge and strive to obey God in all things as best they can.

After the resurrection of God's dead saints at the time of Christ's Second Coming and the transformation into glorified, immortal spirit beings of those who will then be alive, there will be no human beings left alive on the earth called and chosen by God.

1Th 4:15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we **which are alive** and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

1Th 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the **dead in Christ shall rise first:**

1Th 4:17 Then **we which are alive** and remain **shall be caught up together with them in the clouds**, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

God's church is never to die out.

Mat 16:18 And I say also unto thee, **That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.**

Christ's or God's church began on the day of Pentecost, and at the time of His Second Coming to Israel, He will ensure its continuity by making the New Covenant with the physical descendants of the ancient nation of Israel. Following their conversion all men will be called during the Millennium and during the Last Great Day and given their one and only chance to be saved.

Christians celebrate God's annual holy days in spirit and in truth by reviewing their meaning with their Bible. As they study their Bible, God speaks to them and gives them more understanding of the meaning of these days. They are observed in obedience to God and as a means of keeping fresh in our minds the steps being followed by God in the administration and finalization of His great master plan of salvation for mankind.

Conclusion

Salvation is a process that goes on in our minds where God by sharing thoughts from His mind to our minds gives us understanding of the hidden spiritual truths contained in the Bible. It is a PERSONAL, INDIVIDUAL and WHOLLY SPIRITUAL PROCESS not a group activity led by someone claiming to have been given special knowledge of God's truth that he wants to share with other Christians.

God is working with every truly converted Christians revealing and giving him understanding of spiritual truths as he studies God's holy Bible THEIR ONLY SURE SOURCE OF TRUTH.

Truly converted Christians are also to have spiritual fellowship with other truly converted Christians when some are known. Spiritual fellowship is referred to in the Bible as prophesying.

1Co 14:39 Wherefore, brethren, covet [have a great desire] to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues. [if there is someone who can interpret (1Co 14: 27-28)]

This topic has been extensively covered in a study on this Web site you can access by clicking on the following hyperlink: [Unity in God's Church](#) (starting on page 8).

When Christians are having spiritual fellowship they are fellowshiping with God the Father and Jesus-Christ who dwell in every truly converted Christians.

1Jn 1:2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

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.

The worshiping of God who is a spirit being must be in spirit and in truth. This occurs through the spirit in man which gives man's animal brain mind power and makes it possible for God and the Word to give them understanding of the spiritual truths of the Bible upon being called and chosen, and which they endeavor to follow as best they can.

Finally, these studies are provided as a means to have spiritual fellowship with other truly converted Christians that may chance upon them. Like all other truly converted Christians I do not have any absolute truth that all are to accept without first proving them with their Bible. No man or organizations of men can be our criterion or standard of truth. Spiritual fellowship is something all truly converted Christians are to covet which is to say, have a great desire to do.

Never forget that salvation is a process between you and God through Christ and your standard of truth is God's holy Bible not men or organizations of men claiming to be God's representatives.

So do fellowship whenever possible, always prove all things and do keep what is good.

