

## Message Two

### **The Revelation of the Triune God and of the Consummated Spirit**

Scripture Reading: John 1:1, 14, 29; 7:37-39; 14:7-20; 20:22

#### **I. The Gospel of John reveals the Triune God—the Father as the source, the Son as the expression, and the Spirit as the realization—14:7-20:**

- A. The Father is the source—6:46; 7:29; 13:3:
  - 1. No one has ever seen God the Father—1:18; 5:37; 6:46.
  - 2. All that the Father has is the Son's and is in the Son—16:15.
  - 3. The Father sent the Son—7:29; 6:57.
  - 4. The Father is expressed in the Son—14:7-11; 8:19.
  - 5. The Father is working in the Son—14:10; 7:16.
- B. The Son is the expression—1:18:
  - 1. The Son is the Word who is God and who was with God in the beginning—v. 1.
  - 2. The Son is equal with God—5:18.
  - 3. The Son and the Father are one—10:30.
  - 4. The Son is the expression of the Father—14:8-9; 8:19.
  - 5. The Son lives because of the Father—6:57a.
  - 6. The Son came to carry out the Father's will—v. 38; 5:19-20, 30; 12:49.
  - 7. The Son became flesh, bringing grace and reality—1:14, 16-17; 8:32, 36.
  - 8. The Son became a man to be the Lamb of God—1:29, 36.
  - 9. The Son baptized people in the Spirit—v. 33.
  - 10. The Son is life and the bread of life—11:25; 14:6; 6:35.
  - 11. The Son is a grain of wheat bearing much fruit—12:24.
  - 12. The Son is the good Shepherd who will gain His flock—10:14-16.
  - 13. The Son is the Bridegroom coming for His bride—3:29-30.
  - 14. The Son is the vine cultivated by the Father—15:1.
  - 15. The Son died, shedding His blood for the redemption of sins, and flowed out as living water, even as the Spirit—19:34; 7:38-39.
  - 16. In resurrection the Son was breathed into us as the Spirit—20:22.
- C. The Spirit is the realization—14:17; 15:26; 16:13-15:
  - 1. The Spirit is the reality of the Son—14:16-20; 15:26.
  - 2. The Spirit receives all that the Son is and has obtained and discloses it to us—16:13-15.
  - 3. The Father is in the Son, and the Son became the Spirit for us to drink so that He may become the living water flowing out of us—7:37-39; 4:10, 14.
  - 4. The Spirit enters into us to be with us so that we may experience and enjoy the Son—14:17-18.
  - 5. The Spirit being in us is the Son being in us—vv. 17, 20; 17:23, 26.
  - 6. In the Spirit we are joined to the Triune God as one—vv. 21-23.
  - 7. We worship God, who is Spirit, by this Spirit and with reality, that is, with the Christ whom we have experienced—4:23-24.
  - 8. We are regenerated by the Spirit in our spirit, and we worship the Spirit in our spirit—3:6; 4:24.

## II. The Gospel of John reveals the consummated Spirit as the consummation of the processed and consummated Triune God—7:39; 20:22:

- A. The consummated Spirit is the Triune God after He has passed through the process of incarnation, human living, crucifixion, and resurrection—7:39:
1. The process through which the Triune God passed to become the Spirit is an economical, not essential, matter—1:14; Heb. 9:14; 1 Cor. 15:45b:
    - a. With God, change can never be essential; it can only be economical.
    - b. In His economy God has changed in the sense of being processed; although God has changed in His economy, He has not changed in His essence.
  2. *Processed* refers to the steps through which the Triune God has passed in the divine economy; *consummated* indicates that the process has been completed; and *the consummated Spirit* implies that the Spirit of God has been processed and has become the consummated Spirit—John 7:39.
  3. The Spirit of God was there from the beginning (Gen. 1:2), but the Spirit as “the Spirit of Christ” (Rom. 8:9), “the Spirit of Jesus Christ” (Phil. 1:19), was “not yet” at the time of John 7:39, because He was not yet glorified.
  4. The Lord Jesus was glorified when He was resurrected, and through this glorification the Spirit of God became the Spirit of the incarnated, crucified, and resurrected Jesus Christ—Luke 24:26; Phil. 1:19.
  5. The consummated Spirit is the compound of the Triune God, the man Jesus, His human living, His death, and His resurrection—John 7:39; Acts 16:7; Rom. 8:10-11; Phil. 1:19.
- B. The consummated Spirit was breathed as the holy breath into the disciples by the Son in resurrection—John 20:22:
1. The Gospel of John reveals that Christ became flesh to be the Lamb of God and that in resurrection He became the life-giving Spirit; thus, in His resurrection He breathed Himself as the consummated Spirit into the disciples—1:29; 20:22:
    - a. The Holy Spirit in 20:22 is the Spirit expected in 7:39 and promised in 14:16-17, 26; 15:26; and 16:7-8, 13.
    - b. In resurrection Christ was transfigured into the Spirit, and it is as the Spirit that He was breathed into His disciples so that He can live in the disciples and they can live by Him and with Him and so that He can abide in them and they can abide in Him—20:22; 14:19-20; 15:4-5.
    - c. By breathing the Spirit into the disciples, the Lord Jesus imparted Himself into them as life and everything.
    - d. The Holy Spirit in 20:22 is actually the resurrected Christ Himself, because this Spirit is His breath; the Spirit is the breath of the Son.
    - e. The Lord is the Spirit who gives life, and this Spirit is our breath.
  2. The consummated Spirit as the breath is everything to us in living the Christian life; only the breath, the Spirit, can be a Christian, and only the breath, the Spirit, can be an overcomer—Gal. 3:2-3, 14; Phil. 1:19; Rev. 2:7.