

"Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you..." Matthew 28:20

Church of Christ • 13800 S. 4080 Road • P.O. Box 527 • Oologah, Oklahoma 74053

### "HE IS OUR GOD"

Charles Blair

A powerful truth for our consideration is that God does not lie (Titus 1:2). He can be trusted. Whatever He tells us is something we can know of a surety. Those, who invest time and energy to know God through a study of His Word, will find a treasure house of blessings (2 Timothy 2:15). All such blessings are based on the truth that God will not lie.

The Old Testament is a part of the Bible which is so rich in discovering things about the nature of God (Romans 15:4). Reading about the events of the Old Testament aids us in understanding how God is and how God reacts to our activity upon the earth. Whatever is true about the nature of God in the Old Testament is likewise true about God in the New Testament, because God does not change (Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8).

We are given insight into the nature of God in Jeremiah 11:4-5. God reminded the people, through the prophet, that He brought them up out of Egypt. He delivered them out of the furnace of trials and brought them safely to the promised land. In verse four, we see something about the nature of God. He tells them if they will obey His commands, then He will be to them a God, and they shall be His people. What does that say to us about the nature of God and how He views His Word which He gave to His people?

The answer lies in verse 5. The Lord said He would perform the oath which He gave to the people. He brought them to a land flowing with milk and honey just like He promised.

God's dealings with His people required Him to keep His Word. The nature of God was such that He, likewise, demanded of His children that they do the same. Keep His commands and thereby, keep their word to Him.

Question: Has God changed over all the years? Is He somehow today not honoring His Word which He gave through the prophets, and finally through His Son (Hebrews 1:1-2)? Our very salvation depends on the fact that God can be trusted. If it is impossible for Him to lie, then we can trust whatever He has revealed to us. If in the Old Testament, God placed great value on His people honoring His Word by obeying Him, is it any different today?

God promised a covenant for His new family (Hebrews 8:7-8). It would not be according to the first covenant which He made with the Jews (verse 9). Let us look carefully at the basis of this new covenant which God would make with His new people. God said He would put His laws in their mind and write them in their hearts. God always honors His Word by keeping it. He always demands that His people honor Him by keeping their word by obeying God.

The blessing in this arrangement is God will be a God to His people, and they will be His people (verse 10). Concerning the nature of God, what does this show us? It is evident that our obedience to His will is the basis on which He considers us to be His children. All of the efforts not made in obedience of certain individuals, including the family of God and all who believe in the deity of Christ, are somewhat misplaced.

How can anyone be a child of God who does not honor the covenant God has made with spiritual Israel? Was it alright in the days of Jeremiah for the people to have their idols? Was it alright in the days of Malachi for the people to corrupt worship toward God? Knowing the nature of God, all such corruptions were to be condemned. Let us keep His Word, and thereby know He is our God. (edited)

# Is the Holy Ghost an Actual Person Or Is It Just Some Kind of Influence?

Garland M. Robinson

Though some are confused by the words "Holy Ghost" and "Holy Spirit," they are one and the same — there is no distinction between them. The Holy Spirit is a person, not an it. The Holy Spirit is DEITY, one of three members (personalities) of the "Godhead." We read

of the Godhead in Acts 17:29, "Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the **Godhead** is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device." Making up the Godhead are: **God the Father** (John 6:27; Romans 1:7; 15:6), **God the Son** (John 5:18; Titus 2:13; 2 Peter 1:1), **God the Holy Spirit** (Matthew 3:16; Acts 5:3,4; Ephesians 4:30). All three personalities are "God," i.e., they each possess the divine nature and attributes of "deity."

The Holy Spirit is not simply an influence or some mystical phenomenon. He is as real as God the Father and God the Son. The Bible is His Word (Ephesians 6:17; 2 Peter 1:21) given by the direction of God the Father (John 16:13; 2 Timothy 3:16-17). His Word (the Bible) will be used to judge all men in the "last day" at the judgment (John 12:48-50). All must obey His Word in order to be saved.

In Acts 5:3,4, the Holy Spirit is called "God." He is **eternal**—everlasting (Hebrews 9:14), **omniscient**—all knowing (1 Corinthians 2:10-11), **omnipotent**—all powerful (Genesis 1:1,2,26), **omnipresent**—everywhere (Psalm 139:7-11). The Holy Spirit is spoken of as having many other attributes, some of which are: He **speaks** (1 Timothy 4:1), has **knowledge** (1 Corinthians 2:11), has **affections** (Romans 15:30), can be **grieved** (Ephesians 4:30), can be **blasphemed** (Matthew 12:31-32), can be **resisted** (Acts 7:51), and can be **lied to** (Acts 5:3).

Through the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit produces **faith** (Romans 10:17; John 20:30,31), **converts** (1 Peter 1:23), **gives understanding** (Psalm 119:104), **saves** (1 Corinthians 15:1,2), **sanctifies** (John 17:17), **cleanses** (John 15:3), **purifies** (1 Peter 1:22), **quickens** (John 6:63; Psalm 119:50), **enlightens** (Psalm 119:130), **leads** (Psalm 73:24; 119:105), **comforts** (Romans 15:4), **produces fruit** (Colossians 1:5,6), **strengthens** (Revelation 12:11), **regulates our lives** (1 Timothy 3:14,15), **warns** (1 Corinthians 4:14), **guards and makes wise** (2 Timothy 3:13-15), **stirs up** (2 Peter 1:12-13), and **exhorts** (1 Peter 5:12).

The study of the Holy Spirit is rewarding. Let's give ourselves to it.



#### Interesting Quote from the forefathers of the United States:

"I do believe in Almighty God! And I believe also in the Bible. Let us look forward to the time when we can take the flag of our country and nail it below the Cross, and there let it wave as it waved in the olden times, and let us gather around it and inscribe for our motto: 'Liberty and Union, one and and exclaim, and exclaim,

Union, one and inseparable, now and forever,' and exclaim, Christ first, our country next!" Andrew Johnson, seventeenth President of the United States; "The Life and Public Services of Andrew Johnson" by John Savage (Page 255; S.A. Northrop)

## Observations and Concerns

October 19, 2022

Welcome Visitors! You are our honored guests!

"I will sing of mercy and judgment: unto thee, O LORD, will I sing" (Psalm 101:1).

**Expression of Gratitude:** To all of our Bible class students both children and adults.

#### **Remember in Prayer:**

• **Bill Dilks** is going through treatments for his cancer. We are thankful he has been able to be with us some.

Lee & Walnut Gospel Meeting, October 23-26, BJ Clarke, Theme: "The Power of One."

**Reminder:** If you have news for the Oologah Observer, please give it to Chelley or Chuck before Tuesday morning each week.

If you miss a copy of **the Oologah Observer**, it can be viewed online on our website: oologahcofc.org.

Either the Bible will keep you from sin... or sin will keep you from the Bible.



Schedule of Services				
Sundays				
Bible Classes 9:30 AM				
Worship 10:30 AM				
Worship 5:00 PM				
Wednesdays				
Bible Classes 7:00 PM				

Website: oologahcofc.org

Assignments				
	Wednesday, Oct 19	Sunday, Oct. 23 AM	Sunday, Oct. 23 PM	
Announcements	Chris Nelson	Ross Swearingen	Russ Earl	
Song Leader	Doyle Jackson	Doyle Jackson	Ross Swearingen	
Prayer	Paul Praschnik	Paul Praschnik	Chuck Northrop	
Lord's Supper (speaker)		Russ Earl	Chris Nelson	
Lord's Supper		Doyle Jackson		
Lesson	Ross Swearingen	Chuck Northrop	Ron Hass	
Prayer / Door Attendant	Russ Earl	Chris Nelson	Paul Praschnik	