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**GOD is
LOVE
Mini-Book
Part 5**

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Introduction

This is Part 5 of a series of Mini-books on **“God is Love.”** This series is not the same as the larger book titled **“God is Love.”** The larger book focuses upon “why God created man in His own likeness and image.”? The larger book is available by downloading from our Web sites at:

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This series of Mini-books will focus upon “God and His love for mankind.” If we do not know God by His love, we do not truly know God. **“...For God is Love”** (1 John 4:8).

For those who have not read the first four parts of this series of Mini-books, it would be very helpful for them if they were to get them and read them first. There is a lot of information in the first four parts that is not covered in this part.

GOD IS LOVE

Part 5

In 1 John 4:8 it tells us that God is love (agape). How can anyone understand how God could be love? Love is not a physical substance, it is spiritual. The natural man cannot understand spiritual things. It tells us in 1 Corinthians 2:14, **“...the natural man 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.”**

In this part, let us understand the plan of God for us from the foundation of the world, based upon “the love of God.” In the Scriptures, God uses types and shadows, symbolic language, and figurative speaking. Therefore, we also use types and shadows to explain spiritual things, just as Jesus used parables, symbolic language, and figurative speaking.

There is a saying in the world that many have heard over the years. That saying is, “like father, like son.” This is a type and shadow of the love of God. God is spirit, and love is spiritual, but if we see this in a type and shadow of “like father, like son” we can better understand it.

In John 5:19 it says, **“Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.”** This indicates that Jesus learned what to do from His Father. We could say God the Father taught His Son what to do, and how to do it.

If we go back into Proverbs 8:21-30, and read with the help of the Holy Spirit (not according to the teachings of men), we will see how that Jesus was with the Father in the beginning of time before Genesis 1:2. Jesus learned about creating things from His Father. Then Jesus Himself, created the world and all things we have now (John 1:10, Col. 1:15,16).

Jesus learned, while being with His Father from the beginning of time. Then He did the same thing in the creation of this world we live in today. God is love, and Jesus “being one with the Father” is also love.

After creating mankind in the likeness and image of God, the LORD had fellowship with Adam in the garden of Eden, where He placed man in the beginning. In the garden of Eden, Satan

used the serpent to deceive Eve, and then used Eve to get Adam to sin. Because that the LORD is love, and love always considers others before themselves, the LORD said in Genesis 3:15, **“I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.”**

This is the true love of God, whereby The LORD Himself said He would come into this world and take upon Himself the sin of the world, die on the Cross, defeat the Devil, and raise again from the dead in victory over sin and death.

By Jesus’ death and resurrection, He made it possible for mankind to become born again of the Word and the Spirit. By this new birth we receive the very life of God within us. We become true children of God (in the spirit).

Being true children of God, we become like God (spiritual), a new creation of mankind, being “one spirit with the LORD” (1 Cor. 6:17). Being Children of God, in Christ Jesus, we must now learn how to live in the Spirit.

In the beginning of time (before Genesis 1:2), Jesus was the Son of God. God was His Father from the beginning. But, the Son of God needed to learn from His Father how to do things in the spiritual realm. Therefore, God the Father taught His Son spiritual things.

Now that Christians are born again of the Spirit they also need to be taught spiritual things. What we have learned in the natural concerning natural things in this world is not sufficient for us to walk with God. In Amos 3:3 it asks the question, **“Can two walk together, except they be agreed?”** The answer is simple, no they cannot walk together unless they agree.

As we study the New Testament, we will find that the flesh and the spirit cannot agree. One example is in Galatians 5:17 where it says, **“For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other...”** In Galatians 6:8 it says, **“For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.”**

The spirit and the flesh do not agree. Therefore, we must be taught how to live according to the spirit, rather than according to the flesh. Speaking of the New Covenant in Isaiah 54:13 it says, **“And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children.”** Jesus could have been referring to Isaiah 54:13 when He said in John 6:45, **“It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.”**

God is love, and love does not force anyone to do anything. Therefore, if we are born again of the Spirit, we must receive the Holy Spirit also to be taught by God. If we ignore the Holy Spirit, and do not study the Scriptures we may not be taught by God. The Holy Spirit does use the Scriptures to teach from. The Holy Spirit confirms the Word of God when we believe. If we do not spend time studying the Scriptures, we may not become taught by the Holy Spirit.

Many Christians today have been taught by men, and some of what they have been taught does not agree with the Scriptures. It may agree with what they believe it says, and in the natural it may seem as though what they say is correct. But, the true meaning of what it says may not be what they believe.

God goes by what the Holy Spirit meant when He used men to write the Scriptures (not by what people believe He meant). What God said, and what people believe is sometimes two different things. Just as the Pharisees believed they were right when they came against Jesus for healing on

the Sabbath day. They thought they were right, but the Holy Spirit confirmed that Jesus was right when He healed on the Sabbath day.

If we believe the religious spirits today who teach their idea of what God said and meant, we could be deceived just as the Pharisees were deceived when Jesus healed on the Sabbath day.

As an example, some believe today that a person cannot become born again without water baptism. Careful study of the Scriptures will reveal that the Gentiles at Cornelius' house were born again and baptized in the Holy Spirit before they were baptized in water (Acts 10:44-48).

We must not become so naturally minded that we cannot understand spiritual things. Many times spiritual things are revealed in the Scriptures using types and shadows of natural things. Therefore, in type and shadow, the Son of God was taught by God the Father. All that Jesus learned from the Father He did, to help teach us how to do things in the spiritual realm (John 14:12).

Faith is a spiritual operation in the spiritual realm, which manifests in the natural realm. Hebrews 11:1 says, **“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”** Faith does have substance. That is, faith has spiritual substance. This spiritual substance is the evidence of things not seen.

Therefore, faith is not blind, it is not some hard headed determination to reject all information and wait for something to happen. That is not what faith is. Faith does have substance and evidence concerning what is not seen at the time.

A few years ago a preacher was trying to cast a demon out of a child. The child had a condition where it seemed he would go out of his mind. In trying to cast the demon out of this child, the preacher sat upon the child to hold him down while he commanded the demon to leave. As a result, the child suffocated and died. This preacher thought he knew how to cast out a demon, but God was not in on what he was doing. It takes faith to cast out a demon. Faith operates in the spiritual realm, not the natural realm. Sitting on a child to hold them down while casting out a demon is not operating in faith.

Faith works by words spoken, not by physical force. Words are spirit, and they operate in the spiritual realm. Christians must be “taught by God” how to live by faith. God can use Christians to teach others spiritual things but, the end results must be a spiritual operation in the spirit realm, not a natural operation in the natural realm.

God never uses force in the spiritual realm. God is love, and God operates by His Word and the anointing of the Holy Spirit. These two working together produce the faith that causes changes in the natural realm.

Years ago a sister in the LORD had a tooth that was causing pain. She mentioned to me that she had pain in a tooth and had gone to a dentist. An x-ray was taken and she was told she had a hairline crack in one tooth. Her choice was to have it pulled, or have a root canal done.

She did not have any work done on her tooth by the dentist. When she told me what the dentist told her, I prayed for her. I simply laid my hand on her face and commanded healing in that tooth “in Jesus' name.” That was years ago, and she has not had a toothache in that tooth since.

Faith is a spiritual operation, by the anointing of the Holy Spirit and words spoken. Faith never uses force. Faith operates in the spiritual realm, not the natural realm. Those who are baptized in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues have the anointing of the Holy Spirit within them. The anointing flows from one person to another when we lay hands upon the one we are praying for.

This is the instructions given to us by Jesus in Mark 16:17,18. Jesus said, **“...these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name...they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover”** (Mark 16:17,18). This is a spiritual operation, not a natural operation.

The world operates in the natural realm, using natural things to accomplish what they desire. God operates in the spiritual realm, using the anointing and Words to accomplish what He desires.

To live by faith, we must do things the way God does things, not the way the world does things. If we are born of the Spirit, we should also walk in the Spirit (Gal. 5:25).

Jesus was taught by God the Father, how to walk and live in the Spirit. Then Jesus came into this world, born of the Holy Spirit and a woman. He lived as a Man in the flesh, but walked after the Spirit rather than after the flesh.

While Jesus was here on earth as the Son of Man, he did the things that His Father taught Him. One thing the Father taught Jesus was how to be led by the Holy Spirit in everything He did. Jesus made reference to this when He said in John 8:28 that He spoke those things that His Father taught Him.

Jesus taught His disciples a lot about faith, but could not teach them very much about being led by the Holy Spirit, because they did not have the Holy Spirit dwelling in them at that time. Therefore Jesus said to them in John 16:12,13, **“I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now...Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.”**

By this we see that Jesus was teaching His disciples faith (how to live by faith). But, Jesus could not teach His disciples how to be led by the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit, Himself, will teach us how to be led by the Spirit. By this we can see the saying, “like father, like son,” seems to be the way God teaches also.

This is God’s plan for His Children here on earth. We are to be taught by God, not by man (1 John 2:27). Men can teach us some things, but the way to live by faith and walk after the Spirit will be taught by the Holy Spirit.

There is a lot that Christians should learn from the Holy Spirit that will help them in their lives here on earth. That is why Jesus made mention of this in John 6:45, saying, **“It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God...”**

God the Father taught His Son how to live in the Spirit and do things in the spiritual realm. Then Jesus came and did what the Father had taught Him.

When Christians become born again of the Holy Spirit, they should desire to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit, which is also the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Once they receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit, the anointing within them will begin to teach them how to live in the spirit and be led by the Holy Spirit. There is a difference between walking after the flesh and walking after the Spirit (Gal. 5:16,17).

In May of 1981 I received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Within weeks, the Holy Spirit began speaking to me from my Spirit. I was in a situation where I needed \$3,000 within two to three weeks. I only had about \$600 at the time.

On Tuesday of the last week of May, words came from my spirit, saying, *“send _____ one hundred dollars.”* That was about noon that day. Immediately, I said to the LORD, *“LORD, I don’t have one hundred dollars to spare.”*

Somehow I just knew that was the LORD speaking to me from my spirit. I cannot explain how I knew it was the LORD, but it was instant knowledge. Just as soon as the words came from my spirit to send one hundred dollars to a certain person in the ministry, I spoke to the LORD, saying, *“LORD, I don’t have one hundred dollars to spare.”*

The next day, about noon, from my spirit came the same words, *“send ____ one hundred dollars!”* I said, *“LORD, I don’t have one hundred dollars to send, I need three thousand dollars by the fifteenth of June, if I had it, You know I would send it.”*

Again, on Thursday about noon, from my spirit came the same words, *“send ____ one hundred dollars!”* This time I answered, *“LORD, I’ll send the money, but You will have to take care of the three thousand dollars I need by the fifteenth of June.”*

I wrote out the check and went to the corner mail box and mailed it. When I was entering the door to the shop the telephone was ringing. I got one phone call after another for service work.

By the fifteenth of June I had over three thousand dollars. By the first of July I had another one thousand dollars, and by the end of July I took in about five thousand dollars more than any year previous during those three months.

The Holy Spirit was teaching me one way to receive money when we are in need. That way is by giving into the ministry work that the LORD has others doing. When we give by the leading of the Holy Spirit from within us, God will increase our income to cover all our needs.

What the Holy Spirit was teaching me at that time is not the way the world does things. The world does not understand that by giving to others the LORD can cause an increase in our income to help us when we have a need. That is what the Bible tells us in Deuteronomy 8:18. God wants to bless us financially for giving into the work of the LORD.

God is love, and love gives to those whom they love. When there is a need, love gives to those in need. God proved that when He saw the need for mankind to be set free of sin and death. When Adam and Eve sinned in the garden of Eden, the LORD said He would come into this world, born of a woman, and set mankind free of the sin and death that entered into the human race. The LORD saw the need, and because of His love for us, He paid the price for our sins, and made it possible for us to become true children of God in Him. That is the true love of God, which does manifest in the lives of those who love God.

Like father, like son, the Holy Spirit comes into our lives to teach us how to live in the spirit. There are many things that we need to learn about living in the spirit that is different from living in the flesh. Each of these things the Holy Spirit will teach us Himself.

God the Father taught His Son how to create all things. Then the Son created this world and all that is in this world. John 1:10 says, **“He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.”** The Son of God first created this world, then He came into this world to offer to us eternal life in Him.

John 1:11,12 says, **“He came unto his own, and his own received him not...But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.”** Did you notice, He only gave the power to become sons of God to those who believe on His name? Why? Because God is love and will not force anyone to receive Jesus as their LORD and Savior. But, for those who do come to Him, He will not refuse to receive them (John 6:37).

God is love, and what we cannot do, God does for us. We cannot, of our own ability become children of God therefore, God made us a new creature in Christ Jesus. It says in John 1:13, **“Which**

were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.” God did it for us. That shows how much God loves us.

But, did you notice that the same God who made us a new creature in Christ Jesus, is the same God who will teach us all things pertaining to living in the Spirit? God the Father taught His Son how to live and do things in the spirit. Now, that we are children of God in the spirit, the Holy Spirit teaches us how to live in the spirit. “Like father, like son,” our teacher is the same one who made us new creatures in Christ Jesus.

There is so much to learn concerning “how to live in the spirit,” that we need to be taught by the Holy Spirit Himself. Men cannot teach us how to live in the spirit. But the Holy Spirit can teach us how to live in the spirit.

Many times, men try to teach us how to live in the spirit, and they end up teaching us how to operate in the false operations of the spirit. Men teach Christians how to prophesy falsely. Some teach Christians how to receive false words of knowledge. Some teach all sorts of false spiritual operations and say it is God.

The Holy Spirit teaches us how to know the false from the true. The Holy Spirit gives us the gift of “discerning of spirits” to know the false from the true. God is love, and does not desire that any Christian should be deceived, and follow false operations. To truly know the false from the true sometimes we need the gift of “discerning of spirits” (1 Cor. 12:10). The true gift of “discerning of spirits” only operates when it is given to us by the Holy Spirit, **“as the Spirit wills”** (1 Cor. 12:11).

The gift of “discerning of spirits” operates by an “instant knowing” from within our spirit (sometimes we will see a demon in a vision). It is not head knowledge, or something we learn by studying the Scriptures. It is a complete operation of the Holy Spirit, revealing “instant knowledge” to us concerning a work of the Devil in the life of an individual.

When Christians permit the Devil to operate in their lives, they get into false manifestations of spirits. By a work of the Holy Spirit from within our spirit, sometimes will receive “instant knowledge” of the false operation of spirits among us.

God wants to teach us all things pertaining to “walking and living in the Spirit.” But, Satan has sent many into the churches, trying to teach things that should not be taught.

God is love. Where God is working their will be evidence of the love of God also. When someone claims to be a true Apostle, Prophet, Teacher, Evangelist, or Pastor, the evidence of the love of God should manifest in their lives. The love of God always prefers others before themselves (Philp. 2:4). By the manifestation of the love of God within an individual, and their concern for others first, you can know if they are sent by God or not.

Controlling spirits are never sent by God. Satan sends out controlling spirits among Christians. Those whom God sends into the Churches always prefer others before themselves. These walking in the love of God always prefer others first, before themselves. They are in the body of Christ to serve, not to be served. That is one way you can know if they are truly sent by God?

When a person is truly sent by God, they will be led by the Holy Spirit, not by the will of man. Their desire will be to help others **“For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ...Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ”** (Eph. 4:12.13).

The **“...unity of the faith...”** includes having faith in God, not in man. To believe that God

is our source and supply for all our needs, not man. (Whenever the Bible talks about faith, it is always talking of having faith in God, not in ourselves). It is God's desire that every Christian puts their trust in God, not in man. When we have a need, the first thing we should do is go to God in prayer, and ask the LORD for help in a time of need.

Jesus said in John 14:12-14, **“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father...And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son...If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.”**

“Like father, like son.” When Jesus had a need, He always went to the Father. He always prayed to the Father. As an example, in John 11:41,42 it says, **“...And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me...And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.”**

Christians today, should do the same as Jesus did, by going to God when they have a need. Pray and believe God for whatsoever we have a need of. That is God's will for us. That is what God wants us to do. God wants to be GOD in our lives. God wants to be the source for everything we have a need of.

For more information on this subject, get all the other Parts of **“GOD is LOVE.”** Watch for this series on our Web sites and download as many free books as you desire. All books on our Web sites are free. Go to:

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