

The Father and Son Want to Live Inside Us

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Here we are on this day of Pentecost in 2022; who thought we would still be here, but we are. On this day of Pentecost, I would like to discuss a fact that has everything to do with this very day. It's a fact so astounding that most humans would never believe it and frankly don't believe it. All of us, over the last several years have proven that there is a Supreme Being. He is eternal, He is the Almighty, He is the Most High and He is the Living God. His name is Yehovah and He is our Father. We all know that. He has an eternal Son who sits at His Right Hand in majesty and glory, second only to Him. As we just memorialized in the first spring Holy Days, our Father offered His only begotten Son and His Son willingly offered Himself because they love us. Because they want us to have eternal life in their Kingdom.

The fact is, our Father—this is by way of introduction—always wanted to dwell with His children. Let's go back—again we're introducing this subject—in history to establish the fact that God Almighty has always wanted to be with and to dwell with His children. Let's go to Leviticus 26 and we'll read verses 11 and 12. We are breaking into the context of Yehovah speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai and notice what Yehovah says and what His desire is.

Leviticus 26:11 *And I will set my tabernacle among you: and my soul shall not abhor you. (KJV)*

The New Living Translation translates this verse as:

I will live among you: and I will not despise you.

Going on in verse 12, in the King James.

12) *And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be my people. (KJV)*

We know Yehovah is our Father and as the eternal Father, He wants to dwell with His children, as we do with our children. If we're fathers or mothers, you want to dwell with your children. We know His Presence was first in the tabernacle and later in the temple. You remember—we won't turn there—Solomon's prayer of dedication to the temple; fire came down from heaven and we are told the glory of Yehovah came upon the house and His Presence was there with the people. We find that in 2 Chronicles 7 if you want to look at it later. Projecting forward, looking into the future, our Father will also dwell with His children. Let's go to Revelation 21, we're coming to the end of the book, the end of the story and let's see that desire on the part of God Almighty and His Son too, is obviously, the same.

Revelation 21:3 *And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. (KJV)*

He is a loving God Who wants to be with His children. He wants to be with His children for an eternity. We know that the great God is the Supreme Being and is eternal and He is spiritual and He wants to dwell with His children for an eternity. Here we are on the day of Pentecost in 2022 and we want to look at one major purpose or meaning of this day. Not only does our Father want to dwell with His children, but even more astounding than that, is the subject of what we're going to talk about today. That is, the Father and His Son want to live inside us. Not just be with us but they want to actually live inside of us. What a concept. We're going to have five points today to hopefully flush out this concept.

1. Let's begin with the fact that I just stated with—the Father and His Son want to dwell inside us.

There's no religion that I know of that promises that. When I was in college, I was on a mission to study all the religions. This was because I was studying Psychology and later also did it in graduate school. Of course, Psychology is based on evolution and most of my professors didn't believe in God, they believed in evolution. They did not believe in creation either, so I went on a mission to study that and of all the religions I studied, there was no religion that promised the Supreme Being will come down and dwell inside a believer—a human being. The only place this is promised is in God's Word—in the Bible; nowhere else in any other religion. Think about that. The whole concept of the Supreme Eternal Being coming down and dwelling inside a temporary human being, for that human being's benefit.

Christ revealed this astounding fact in the New Testament. I'm sure it was a fact that caught the apostles by surprise. The disciples, at that point, didn't have a clue what He was talking about when He mentioned that. It was a promise something greater than just wanting to be with the children; it was the promise of wanting to be in them. On the night the Son of the Almighty was betrayed, after the bread, after the wine, after the foot washing, Christ had an astounding promise to convey to His disciples. Let's go to John 14, we read this on Passover evening and study it prior to Passover but let's think of this from the standpoint of the Supreme Being and His Son wanting to dwell inside a human being. Christ is speaking after the foot washing and of course, that was astonishing enough to the disciples that He would stoop down and wash their feet.

John 14:16 *And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he [the Greek can be translated "it" and of course the trinitarians had their way with that translation claiming that the Holy Spirit is a being] may abide with you forever;*

17) Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not [and the world is that way today], neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

18) I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. (KJV)

Verse 23.

23) Jesus answered and said unto him [talking to Judas, not Judas Iscariot], If a man loves me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we

[the Father and the Son] *will come unto him, and make our abode with him.*
(KJV)

The Greek word for *abode* is Strong's #3438 and it's the Greek word *mone* and Spiros Zodhiates in his Complete Word Study Dictionary of the New Testament says of this word, it means "to dwell", it can also mean "a habitation, a place to live". Christ is saying, "*I'm promising you*", the disciples there with Him, "*My Father and I are going to come and make Our home in you.*" Of course, they didn't understand that at the time; they had no clue what He meant. Let's go to Acts 2 now, on this very day. This is on this very day of Pentecost after the miracles of the roaring wind that got the whole city's attention apparently and the tongues of fire over their heads. Peter is speaking to the Jews, who probably stampeded towards this area because they heard this noise and didn't know what it was. So, Peter is speaking to them.

Acts 2:36 *Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified [not pulling any punches here], both Lord and Christ. [The Messiah.]*

37) Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart [this was after the miracles, they knew something was going on], and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? (KJV)

Then we know the very familiar scripture, verse 38.

38) Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift [it is a gift] of the Holy Spirit.

39) For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, [here's the caveat] even as many as the Lord our God shall call. (KJV)

We know and understand, contrary to popular Protestant and Catholic belief, that God is not calling everyone right now, that's not His purpose. The Father and Satan are not in some kind of war. Because if they were, Satan would be winning right now and that is not the case; God is only calling a few and we understand that. It is astounding that the Supreme Being has called each one of us with the express purpose of Him and His Son actually living inside us. What a concept. We often don't think about that or we take it for granted. You think about Who God is—eternal, created everything, that is, along with His Son—and they want to come and live inside us? Think about that. What an astounding concept that is. As I said, at the time the disciples didn't understand it, they didn't have a clue about this. But that is exactly what happened on the very first day of Pentecost—that process began—as the Holy Spirit, the very Spirit of God Almighty and His Son was made available to the New Testament church.

That leads us to a huge question and that's point 2; we'll spend a little time on this one.

2. What is the purpose of the Father and the Son coming to dwell in us?

What is the point of it? Why did He say this? Why do He and His Son want to do this? There's got to be a purpose behind it. Something as monumental as the

Creator of the universe and His Son wanting to come and dwell inside sweaty, stinky human beings with a limited life span. There has to be a purpose for that. To do something that astounding there has to be a point to it. Let's go to Luke 24:49, just this one verse. Christ is speaking to the disciples at the end of the forty days with them, just before He ascended to heaven for the final time until He comes again, which we hope is very soon.

Luke 24:49 *And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.* (KJV)

The Greek for *endued*, and we don't often use that word today in modern English, is Strong's #1746 and it's the Greek word *enduo* and it has an interesting meaning. It means "in the sense of sinking into a garment, to have put something on, as you put on a cloak, or wrap yourself into a blanket you kind of sink into it". That's the meaning of this word. So, keep this word *enduo* in your mind because it's going to come up again later. So *endued with the power from on high*. That Greek word for *power* is Strong's #1411, the Greek word *dunamis* and we get our English word *dynamo* from that. It means "a force"; "a literal force" or "figurative force" but especially (I'm quoting from Strong's now) "*miraculous power or miraculous strength*." So, He said:

"Wait here because there is a promise that you're going to have miraculous power and miraculous strength put upon you."

We have to ask the question, power and strength to do what? Why would God Almighty give us, through His Spirit, power and strength? He wouldn't do it just on a whim. He would do it with a purpose and we have to ask, what is the purpose for that power and strength for human beings, to have the very power and the very strength of God the Father and His Son? What is the purpose behind it? There are two we'll talk about—there are others of course—but we're going to talk about the two main ones.

2A. For miracles—to perform miracles.

James pointed that out two Sabbaths ago. Let's go to Acts 2:1 and see the beginning of this, after the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ; this very day.

Acts 2:1 *And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.* [They were waiting in Jerusalem as they were told to]
2) *And suddenly there came a sound from heaven ...* (KJV)

We know where it came from, but obviously the sound in a physical sense came from the sky, above Jerusalem—started there.

2 continued) ... as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. (KJV)

It filled the whole house. The people came rushing from this sound, it was miraculous, as we'll see. This sound filled the whole house as though it was a mighty wind—it was a sound.

3) And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire [like the tongue of a flame], and it sat upon each of them.

4) And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues ... (KJV)

We understand the Greek word means *languages*, it's not babble or anything like that as some religions practice. But they heard them speak in their native language.

4 continued) ... as the Spirit gave them utterance. (KJV)

Going to verse 33 now, as we are told Peter is speaking to the Jews who were in Jerusalem at the time from many nations and they came rushing to this house. They gathered around this house, which was the source of the noise. The disciples and the apostles came out and Peter began to speak to them. I'll read this out of the New Living Translation.

33) Now he [referring to Christ, the Messiah] is exalted to the place of highest honor in heaven, at God's right hand. And the Father, as he had promised, gave him [referring to Christ] the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us, just as you see and hear today. (NLT)

So, this day began with miracles. The purpose of the miracles was to draw the people's attention to the fact that something miraculous was going on, on this day. Now chapter 3, these miracles continued.

Acts 3:1 *Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.*

2) And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; (KJV)

This happened daily, so obviously anybody coming into the temple would see this man day after day after day. This wasn't a new figure. We would say today, he was fixture at the temple because he was always there asking for alms.

3) Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.

4) And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.

5) And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

6) Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. (KJV)

He did so in the name of Christ—the one they had crucified, the one the Jews had killed, and right then in front of this man who everybody knew, he is saying in His name,

“I'm telling you to rise up and walk.”

Look at the detail in Luke's writing.

7) And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

8) And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

9) And all the people saw him walking and praising God: (KJV)

This had never been done before; a man who was lame from birth is now jumping and leaping and probably yelling with joy, with a look of *See what these men have done to me, in the name of Jesus Christ*. Obviously, these miracles were done to call attention to the fact that Jesus Christ was the Messiah and in His name these miracles are being done.

Now look at Acts 4:29. This is after the apostles had been questioned by the High Priest. After that occurred the brethren gathered together and they were praising God Almighty, as a result.

Acts 4:29 *And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word ... (KJV)*

It's not stated there but how would they do that with all boldness? Through the power of the Holy Spirit.

30) By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus. (KJV)

The purpose was to do miracles in Christ's name to establish the fact that He was the Messiah and He died and was resurrected and these miracles are now occurring in His name. They were being done to impress the people about the life and death of Jesus Christ and the fact that He was the Messiah sent from His Father.

31) And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. (KJV)

They wouldn't have done that earlier, but now they have help, power from God Almighty.

33) And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: (KJV)

So, through the Holy Spirit, the Father gave them power to do what they normally could not do or would not do. Apart from the Holy Spirit, they didn't have power to do that. We know going on to Acts 5, the first eleven verses cover the account of Ananias and Sapphira and they dropped dead—both of them—after Peter confronted them because of their lie to God Almighty. Then in verse Acts 5:12.

Acts 5:12 *And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. (KJV)*

Verse 14.

14) And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.) (KJV)

And these miracles got their attention and they paid heed to what the apostles were saying and preaching to them and as a result many were called and baptized and they received the Holy Spirit. Now let's go to Acts 10. We are talking about the purpose of the Father and Son residing in human beings and that those miracles were the first purpose. Acts 10:34; Peter is with Cornelius and those who believed with Cornelius. This is out of the New King James.

Acts 10:34 *Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality.*

35) But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him. (NKJV)

Verse 44.

44) While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word.

45) And those of the circumcision who believed ... (NKJV)

It's referring to the Jews who accompanied Peter from Joppa who came down to visit Cornelius.

45 continued) ... were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.

46) For they heard them speak with tongues [languages just as in Acts 2] and magnify God. Then Peter answered,

47) Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" (NKJV)

Referring back to Acts 2 we see that miracle after miracle occurred, in Judah and later around the Mediterranean, to get people's attention, so they would listen to the apostles' message about Jesus and His resurrection. The New Testament is filled with these powerful miracles. Of course, projecting into the future, probably in our lifetime hopefully, we'll see two witnesses doing the very same thing to emphasize the fact that the Father and His Son are doing something miraculous and they are straightening the world out. We have to remember that part of the reason for the miracles is that our Father called the weak of the world, did He not? Let's go to 1 Corinthians 1:19; I know we know this but let's read this from the standpoint of the necessity of the miracles given for who God called—this bunch of fishermen. Paul is speaking.

1 Corinthians 1:19 *For it is written, [he is paraphrasing Isaiah 29:14] I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. (KJV)*

The New Living Translation translates this word *prudent* as *the intelligent*. He said, I'm going to bring to nothing, the understanding of the intelligent—those who are regarded as intelligent.

20) Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? [here we get to the point] hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? (KJV)

Verse 21 I'll read out of the New Living Translation, going on; notice what it says, I think it's a great translation.

21) Since God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never know him through human wisdom, he has used our foolish preaching to save those who believe. (NLT)

Verse 22 back to the King James.

*22) For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:
23) But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks [and I might add to the world today] foolishness; (KJV)*

What we believe, what we're talking about today, to the world is just utter foolishness.

*24) But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, [we understand that] and the wisdom of God.
25) Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.
26) For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: (KJV)*

Then verse 27 on, back to the New Living Translation.

27) Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish [that would be all of us] in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. (NLT)

Again, referring to us.

28) God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. (NLT)

The truth is doing that.

29) As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God. (NLT)

The apostles were viewed as the weak of the world; they were viewed as a bunch of uneducated fishermen. Let's go to Acts 4:13 and see that. This was after the healing of the lame man from birth in Acts 3 that we just covered. The apostles now are with the High Priest and his entourage.

Acts 4:13 *Now when they [the High Priest and those with him] saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, [by their accents, their demeanor, their dress, they were unlearned and ignorant in the view of the High Priest and intelligentsia of the Jews] they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus. (KJV)*

A part of the reason they “took knowledge” was that lame man was healed. This is why the miracles were necessary; to prove that Christ was indeed the Messiah. Those miracles were not there to aggrandize a human being, nor to uplift the one asking for the miracle nor the one through whom God had performed the miracle. It's not there to aggrandize a human being. I won't go into that, but in the past, I remember some individuals high up asking for miracles so they could perform them. What's the motive behind that? These miracles were to show people that in the name of Jesus Christ—the one you killed, who you hung on a cross, the one who died for you, the one who was resurrected and now sitting on the right hand of God, these miracles are done in His name. So, you had better pay attention and it did get their attention.

In addition to these demonstrations of miraculous power, of the power of the Holy Spirit, it was necessary to achieve something far greater than the miracles we have just talked about, or the miracles in the New Testament that are on the record. Something far greater and that leads us to the second reason—purpose—of the Holy Spirit coming to reside in human beings like us.

2B. The Holy Spirit is given to us because it gives us the power to change the very nature of a human being.

Let's go to Colossians 3:5 and see that. Paul is writing to the church in Colossi and talks about a man who is speaking from experience, because he persecuted the Christians some thirty years earlier. Talk about the power to change the nature of somebody, here you have a man who was responsible for the death, the imprisonment of Christians and now he is talking some thirty years later. I'll read this out of the New King James.

Colossians 3:5 *Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. (NKJV)*

Something we have to be very careful about.

- 6) *Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience,*
- 7) *in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. (NKJV)*

The same is true for each one of us. We were there—been there, done that, as they say.

8) But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.

9) Do not lie to one another, since you have put off [now he draws an analogy] the old man with his deeds ... (NKJV)

That “old person” prior to conversion, prior to baptism, prior to receiving the Holy Spirit.

10) and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him [God the Father] who created him [the new man] ... (NKJV)

It's interesting, the Greek word translated “put” as in “put on”, is Strong's #1746 *enduo*, the same as we read in Luke 24:49, *endued with the power on high*. Remember on the Day of Atonement, Aaron had to put on holy garments before coming into the presence of Yehovah in the Holy of Holies. Similarly, we must have put on the new man, or the new woman, before we can be resurrected to be in the presence of God Almighty, of Yehovah. We have to put on the “*new being*” who we are called to be. Going on in verse 11.

11) where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

12) Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, [here's this Greek word again] put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; (NKJV)

We have to ask ourselves, am I doing that every day?

13) bearing with one another [putting up with one another], and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. (NKJV)

Forgive one another and today, within the greater churches of God, that is too often not done.

14) But above all these things put on [that Greek word again] love, which is the bond of perfection.

15) And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called [for that very purpose] in one body; and be thankful. (NKJV)

For which we are very thankful. Now let's go to Ephesians 4, Paul is writing sometime after his Epistle to the Colossians, so this is a later letter as opposed to what we just read. Ephesians 4:17, notice the theme—it is the same theme.

Ephesians 4:17 *This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind ... (KJV)*

Verse 18 we'll start in the New King James.

18) *having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;* (NKJV)

We were all blind, each one of us was blind before we were called.

19) *who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.* (NKJV)

Here's the important part in verse 20.

20) *But you have not so learned Christ ...* (NKJV)

This is not to be done if we belong to Christ, as we're part of the body of Christ.

21) *if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus:*

22) *that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man [here's this concept again] which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,*

23) *and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,*

24) *and that you put on [enduo, that Greek word again] the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.*

25) *Therefore [because we put on the new man], putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another.*

26) *"Be angry, and do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath,*

27) *nor give place to the devil.*

28) *Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.*

29) *Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.*

30) *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom [it's not a person, "by which" would be a better translation] you were sealed for the day of redemption.*

31) *Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away [meaning put off] from you, with all malice.*

32) *And [the implication is put on] be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another ...* (NKJV)

There again that word *forgiveness* and oh that that would be done today among God's people.

32 continued) *... even as God in Christ forgave you.* (NKJV)

Going on past the chapter break, chapter 5:1.

Ephesians 5:1 *Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.*

2) *And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us ...* (NKJV)

You see that the greater purpose of the Holy Spirit dwelling in all of us is to change our human nature from the old person to a totally new person. The only way our nature can be changed is through the power of the Holy Spirit and that happens by the Father and His Son living inside us. The only way it's going to happen.

Now that the Holy Spirit is in us, that leads us to the third point.

3. It's our duty, our obligation to listen to the Father and Son while they are in us.

The Holy Spirit leads and this is a concept that most of the Protestants and Catholics don't understand. The Holy Spirit leads, it's a gentle leading. It's not like Satan who provokes. He compels, he kicks, he shoves, he incites—that's the way Satan works. The Holy Spirit in us is a gentle leading; some people would say it's your conscience talking to you but it's a gentle thing, not a whip and chair. Let's go Psalm 43:3, the psalmist gets to the point of the matter and is appealing to God Almighty. But notice what is said because it's very informative.

Psalm 43:3 *O send out thy light and thy truth [we understand from a New Testament perspective this comes through the Holy Spirit in us]: let them [meaning your light and truth] lead me [not drag me, not kick me, not shove me but lead me]; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.* (KJV)

The Holy Spirit leads us to be closer to our Father, to Yehovah, to God Almighty, but we have to listen to it; to the light and truth, we have to listen. With that in mind let's go to Isaiah 48:17. I'll read this out of the New Living Translation. Isaiah is quoting Yehovah here and notice what we're being told.

Isaiah 48:17 *This is what the Lord says—your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is good for you and leads you along the paths you should follow.* (NLT)

The Hebrew word for *lead* can also be translated *to guide*; the Holy Spirit is "a guide", it's a gentle lead, it quietly leads us and guides us and we have to be sensitive to that gentle urge. When the thought comes into our head, you shouldn't be thinking that, you shouldn't be saying this, you shouldn't be here right now—those kinds of thoughts lead and guide us. The Father and Son in us is something not to be taken lightly, or taken for granted. Let's go to Luke 12 and read something astounding. Luke 12 starting in verse 9; Christ is speaking. This is out of the New Living Translation.

Luke 12:9 *But anyone who denies me here on earth will be denied before God's angels.* (NLT)

If that wasn't bad enough, verse 10.

10) Anyone who speaks against the Son of Man can be forgiven, but anyone who blasphemes the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. (NLT)

Think about that. The Greek word for *blasphemes* is Strong's #987 and it's the Greek word *blasphemeo* and it means—quoting Strong's—"to vilify". Vilify means to "speak in a disparaging manner", against the Holy Spirit. It goes on, it means to defame or to revile. The English word *revile* means "to criticize in an insulting manner". Or the word can mean "to speak evil of". We wouldn't do that today—none of us would even think about doing that against the Holy Spirit. But one way by which we can inadvertently do that, is by not giving the Father credit for a blessing that occurs to us. It might be healing; it might be getting something that we prayed for. It's so easy to give credit to some physical thing—a pill, an herb or something for our healing or to give credit to something physical rather than God Almighty or through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Father and the Son dwelling in us is something we cannot take for granted and I'm as guilty as anybody; there are times in my life I've done that—just taken it for granted. For those who watch Mark Sappington's sermon yesterday, he mentioned how spoiled we are—instant gratification and all that. We walk into a dark room and we can reach out and flip a switch and we have light—instant, right there. We want to take a hot shower and all we have to do is turn a handle and it's right there instantly. You want ice cream? Just open a door to a freezer and it's right there. We are so spoiled as a society. All of this we take for granted. If the light doesn't come on—where's my light, as if we have a right to that. Or where's my hot water or where's my ice cream? It becomes a right for us. We can do the same thing with the Holy Spirit. We can take it for granted that it's here, it speaks to us, God and Christ speak to us through the Holy Spirit. We can take it for granted; this honor to have it in us and this opportunity to have it in us. We can't forget it is an honor and an opportunity to have the very Spirit of the supreme Being in us, motivating us, speaking to us, helping us, guiding us, leading us. This is how seriously we should value it—the Father and the Son dwelling in us. It's just astounding when you think about it.

That leads to the fourth point—something we need to think about.

4. Each time we sin we turn away from the influence of the Holy Spirit.

The influence of the very nature of God Almighty and His Son Jesus Christ. When we sin, we turn away, we turn our back on it. Let's go to Isaiah 59, a very familiar scripture, beginning in verse 1. We will read this from the stand point that when we sin, we are turning away from God Almighty.

Isaiah 59:1 *Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:*

10) But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you, that he will not hear. (KJV)

In the margin the King James, I think there is a very profound translation of this last phrase. The King James margin says: *Your sins have made Him hide His face.* Because of what we have done, it has forced God Almighty to turn His face because of what we have done. When we sin, we send a message to Yehovah that we don't want His influence. The Holy Spirit is leading us and guiding us and then we turn around and sin, saying,

“I don’t want that, I want this over here, I prefer this over the Holy Spirit’s influence.”

3) For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness. (KJV)

Why would Yehovah want to listen to somebody who behaves in this manner? Why would He want to hear somebody who speaks in this manner? The point is, He won’t listen, He won’t hear, until we turn back to Him. When we sin, we turn away but when we repent, when we recognize our sins, we turn back to God Almighty and His Spirit in us. Let’s go to 2 Chronicles 7:14, this is one of my favorite scriptures in all the Bible. Yehovah is speaking and it’s almost like He is pleading with us. Granted He was speaking to Israel, but we are spiritual Israel and He is speaking to us. There’s a beautiful song about this very verse.

2 Chronicles 7:14 *If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face [meaning turn to Him], and turn from their wicked ways; then [this word “then” should be in bold letters flashing lights] will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. (KJV)*

Once they turn away from their wicked ways and they turn toward Me. The fact is, every time we sin, we send a message to our Father that we prefer our way over His way. Just like Adam and Even did. The solution is to always be in harmony with our Father, to be in harmony with His mind, with His thoughts, to be obedient to Him, to His commandments and to His ways. That fourth point, we have to remember that when we sin, we turn away and we want to do just the opposite.

The fifth and last point and this is where the rubber meets the road so to speak.

5. If we don’t heed the Holy Spirit’s influence, it will ultimately leave us—it will go away.

That is the danger of a prolonged turning away from God Almighty. David came close to that when he turned away from God Almighty. You think, King David knew God and God had been with him and made him king of Israel and then he turned and committed murder, committed adultery, was deceptive, lied and the list goes on and on. He came very close to turning away. Psalm 51, we know is the psalm of David’s repentance, let’s read verse 10 and 11.

Psalm 51:10 *Create in me a clean heart, O God; (KJV)*

He wouldn’t say that if he didn’t know that his heart was filthy when he did that.

10 continued) ... and renew a right spirit within me. (KJV)

He knew he didn’t have a right heart when he committed all of those atrocities.

11) Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. (KJV)

David realized he was in a wrong spirit. He had a wrong spirit acting inside him; he had Satan acting inside him. The Hebrew word for *renew* is Strong's #2318 and it actually means "to rebuild". David is saying please rebuild Your Spirit in me. David is asking this because he had been diminishing the Holy Spirit in him by his actions, by his thoughts that led to the situation with Bathsheba and all the subsequent aftermath of that. The Holy Spirit had been diminishing in himself because he turned away from God. If David had not repented and turned back to Yehovah, the Father would have had to remove His Spirit. How can the Holy Spirit live in someone who continually rejects the Almighty.

Paul warned the church of the very same thing—the New Testament church. Let's go to 2 Timothy 1:6; Paul is warning this young minister to do a certain thing because there is a danger to all of us.

2 Timothy 1:6 *Wherefore I put thee in remembrance [here's what I want you to do] that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. (KJV)*

Paul had ordained Timothy as an elder.

7) For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. (KJV)

The Greek word for *stir up* is Strong's #329 and it literally means "to rekindle". All of us have been around a campfire and it starts to go out or you wake up the next morning and it's just a glowing ember and you rekindle it and build it up to where it's flaming again; that's the sense of this word. Paul is saying, "stir it up, rekindle it, light it up." If we don't continually exercise the Holy Spirit in us, the Holy Spirit will gradually diminish over time. That's why Paul warned—we don't need to turn there, we know it by heart—1 Thessalonians 5:19, just four words: "*Quench not the spirit.*" He said this to the church in Thessalonica, "*Quench not the spirit.*"

The NIV says, "*Don't put out the spirit's fire*"; [don't put it out.]

The New Living Translation says, "*Do not stifle the Holy Spirit.*"

We do that—we put it out, we stifle it, we diminish it—each time that we turn away from God, each time we sin. So here is the choice, our way or our Father's way. Just the same choice that was before Adam and Eve. We're going to do it my way or we're going to do it God Almighty's way and His Son's way. The "Way" which He demonstrated when He walked this earth. Let's go to Isaiah 58:13, the last scripture under this last point. Yehovah is speaking here and He's talking about the Sabbath, but the principle holds true for how we behave and how we either follow God Almighty or we don't.

Isaiah 58:13 *If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath [that's an analogy, it's like turning your whole body, your mind away from the Sabbath], from doing thy pleasure on my holy day [if we are doing our pleasure on the Sabbath, we are turning away from God Almighty]; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy*

of the LORD, honorable; and shalt honor him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: (KJV)

If we turn away from doing what Adam and Eve did, to turning toward God Almighty and, in this case, from honoring the Sabbath. But it could be honoring any of the Ten Commandments or any of God's instruction, then He will hear us and will honor us.

14) Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it. (KJV)

What a truth. About 2500 years ago there was an ancient Chinese philosopher whose name was Lao Tzu. He was a philosopher and writer and he said something that was profound:

Watch your thoughts, they become words. Watch your words, they become actions. Watch your actions, they become habits. Watch your habits, they become character. Watch your character, it becomes your destiny.

Our destiny is either eternal life or eternal death. If we watch our words, watch our thoughts, watch our deeds and they are in harmony with God Almighty then we will have eternal life in His Kingdom. If we turn away like Adam and Eve did, wanting our own thoughts, our own ways, our own pleasures, our reward, our destiny is eternal death. Therefore, closing out this fifth point, we must listen to and follow the lead of the Holy Spirit.

Now it's time to conclude, but let's conclude with another astounding fact. We've seen that our Father has always wanted to dwell with His children in the tabernacle, then later the temple. After that Christ lived and died for each one of us and our Father and Son took their desire to be with us to entirely new dimension. Under the New Covenant, we become the very temple of God. Think about that. Stinky, sweaty human beings become the very temple of God. Look at 1 Corinthians 3:16. This is a new concept that Paul is bringing forth and he is trying to convince this disgracefully behaving church, that he condemned in 1 Corinthians that they were just behaving in a carnal manner. He's trying to get across this point, that we are the very temple where the Father and Son live.

1 Corinthians 3:16 *Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? (KJV)*

You can almost hear that Paul is hot about this because of what they've done—they were arguing and fighting amongst themselves and allowing fornication to come into the church and doing all kinds of evil stuff.

17) If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. (KJV)

Go to chapter 6:19, he continues to beat on this theme. You can almost hear the heat in his voice.

1 Corinthians 6:19 *What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?* (KJV)

The Greek word for “temple” is #3485 and Spiros Zodhiates in his Complete Word Study Dictionary of the New Testament says it can refer to the Holy of Holies, where God dwells and that is exactly the inference. If our body is the Holy of Holies, God dwells in our body—it’s analogous to the Holy of Holies in the temple or the tabernacle. In his second letter to the Corinthian church, look at 2 Corinthians 6:16. Same thing, subsequent letter, different time, but the same point. This out of the New King James.

2 Corinthians 6:16 *And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.”* (NKJV)

He’s referring to Leviticus 26:12 which we read earlier.

17) *Therefore [because you are the temple of the living God] “Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you.”*

18) *“I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty.”* (NKJV)

We have to realize the honor and the fact that we are the repository, the temple, the living place of the Father and His Son. So, on this day of Pentecost, let’s deeply realize what an honor it is, to be the very temple where our Father and His Son have chosen to dwell. Being that temple, let’s always remember their purpose for dwelling in us and that is to change us from the people we were before we were called to being like Them. Their mind, Their thoughts, Their words, Their deeds. He has given us the power to do so through His very Spirit residing in each one of us. We all need to remember, when we get down, when we stumble, when we get discouraged, remember this one scripture, a final scripture, Philippians 4:13. We are bombarded on all sides by this increasingly evil world and we have to come out of it as we just read. Let’s never forget this scripture, it is out of the New King James. If anyone could state this, it would be Paul.

Philippians 4:13 *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.* (NKJV)