

## Study 11: The Godhead & the Birth of Christ

In this study we will look at the Godhead's involvement at the birth of Jesus.

**Luke 1:35** And the angel answered and said to her, "**The Holy Spirit will come upon you**, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

**Matthew 1:18** Now the **birth of Jesus Christ** was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found **with child of the Holy Spirit**.

**Matthew 1:20** But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is **conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit**."

**Isaiah 48:16** "Come near to Me, hear this: I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; From the time that it was, I was there. And now the **Lord GOD and His Spirit Have sent Me**."

*Here we see that both the Father and the Holy Spirit sent Jesus.*

"The Godhead was stirred with pity for the race, and **the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit gave Themselves to the working out of the plan of redemption**. In order fully to carry out this plan, it was decided that Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, should give Himself an offering for sin." **Counsels on Health pg. 222**

All Three Persons in the Godhead played a role in the incarnation of Christ. The mystery of redemption was worked out in heaven and Christ was sent at the right time by both the Father and the Holy Spirit.

**Galatians 4:4** But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law

While we are looking at birth it would be good to look at the creation of man. Some people believe that the breath of life and the Spirit of God is one and the same thing. Some anti-Trinitarian's believe that the Holy Spirit's role at creation was that He was the breath of life which God breathed into the nostrils of Adam:

**Genesis 2:7** And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and **breathed into his nostrils the breath of life**; and man became a living being.

The reason why they say this is because Jesus breathed the Holy Spirit upon His disciples:

**John 20:22** And when He had said this, **He breathed on them**, and said to them, "**Receive the Holy Spirit**."

The problem we have here is that animals receive the same breath of life:

**Psalms 104:25** This great and wide sea, In which are **innumerable teeming things, Living things both small and great**.

**Psalms 104:27** These all wait for You, That You may give them their food in due season.

**Psalms 104:29** You hide Your face, they are troubled; You take away their **breath, they die and return to their dust**.

Here we see that the same thing that happens to a person when he dies, happens to animals. The breath returns to God and the dust to the earth.

**Genesis 7:21-23** And all flesh died that moved on the earth: **birds and cattle and beasts and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every man**. All in whose **nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life**, all that was on the dry land, died. So He destroyed all living things which were on the face of the ground: **both man and cattle, creeping thing and bird of the air**. They were destroyed from the earth. Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark remained alive.

If the breath of life refers to the Holy Spirit or the Spirit of God, we would have 2 major problems:

1. Animals would have the Holy Spirit which means God is in the animals and that is pantheism
2. It would also mean that God is in the wicked people through the Holy Spirit. Spirit of Prophecy gives us insight into this concept:
  - a. "God does not abide in the heart of the sinner, it is the enemy who abides there."  
**Sermons and talks vol. 1, pg. 343, 1904**

The Bible teaches that man has a spirit within him which returns to God at death:

**Zechariah 12:1** The burden of the word of the LORD against Israel. Thus says the LORD, who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and **forms the spirit of man within him**

**Luke 23:46** And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'into Your hands **I commit My spirit.**'"  
" Having said this, He **breathed His last.**

**Acts 7:59** And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, "Lord Jesus, **receive my spirit.**"

In these 2 texts both men gave up THEIR spirits. They didn't give up the Holy Spirit or the Spirit of God.

Listen to what Paul says in regard to our body:

**1 Corinthians 15:44-49** It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. **There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.** And so it is written, "The first man **Adam became a living being.**" The last **Adam became a life-giving spirit.** However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. **The first man was of the earth, made of dust;** the second Man is the Lord from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.

***The breath of life gives life to the natural body and the Holy Spirit gives life to the spiritual body.***

When Jesus breathed on His disciples He gave them spiritual power. We also find this spiritual revival in Ezekiel 37:

**Ezekiel 37:9, 10** Also He said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Come from the four winds, O breath, and **breathe on these slain,** that they may live.'" So I prophesied as He commanded me, and **breath came into them,** and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an **exceedingly great army.**

**Ezekiel 37:13, 14** "Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. I will put **My Spirit in you,** and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it," says the LORD."

Scripture teaches that man has a natural body and a spiritual body. The one needs the breath of life and the other needs the Holy Spirit.

In our next study we will study the Godhead at the baptism of Jesus....

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