

*"For God so loved the world,
that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in Him,
should not perish but have everlasting life."
John 3:16 KJV*

THE STORY OF GOD OUR FATHER AND HIS SON JESUS CHRIST

Before the beginning ----- God was.

God became "the Father" when He begat a Son in His express image (2John 1:3, Heb. 1:1-3). This was "the beginning" (John 1:1-3, Prov. 8:22). The Son of God was a divine being exactly like His Father - all knowing, all powerful, and everywhere present. The Father and the Son took bodily form so that they could be seen and heard by created beings with eyes to see and ears to hear. While They existed in bodily form, yet they continued to exist also in Spirit. Their presence and Their power pervaded the universe.

The Son carried out His Father's will and plan in the creation of the earth and of every living thing (Heb. 1:2, Eph. 3:9, 1Cor. 8:6). The Son was called "the Word of God" (John 1:14) because He represented the Father to all created beings. He was the commander of all the angels of Heaven (Heb. 1:6, Rev. 12:7).

Lucifer, the highest *created* being became jealous of God's Son. He refused to be under Christ's authority any longer and "there was war in Heaven." Lucifer the Light Bearer, became Satan the deceiver. He was cast out of Heaven with his angel followers (Rev. 12:7).

Satan deceived the woman and the man in a planet called earth, speaking to them through the mouth of a tree snake (Gen. 3) They believed His lies about the Father. When Adam and Eve rebelled against the Father they were separated from Him and from Heaven. Satan now used the earth as his base of operations. He would continue the war against the Father and the Son.

Adam and Eve were separated from God the Father because of their sin. The Father withdrew His presence (Spirit) from the earth. But Christ the Son became the Mediator and His Presence preserved the earth from ruin. He would try to win the man and the woman and their descendants back to the Father. He would try to bring about a reconciliation (Col. 1:19-10). The Spirit of Christ spoke through all of the Old Testament prophets telling the people of the power and love of God. He told the people of a Savior to come (1Peter 1:10-11).

Christ and the angels under His command kept up a constant connection between Heaven and earth, until the time came for Christ to become a man. He came to earth, as a man to reach men. He came to represent the Father and to tell of His love. “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). Satan had caused men to live in fear of God, to believe that God is an avenging destroyer. Christ came to sweep away the lies. He spoke of God as a Father who cares deeply for every created son and daughter.

When the Son of God incarnated, He could not longer be omnipresent in Spirit. But now, because the Son of God had become a man, the Spirit of God the Father was restored to the earth (John 6:44; John 5:17; John 20:22; John 7:39; Matt. 6:6, 18). The Spirit of the Father flowed through the Son, enabling Him to heal the sick and raise the dead (Acts 2:22, John 14:10). Christ said, “For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself” (John 5:26). Through Christ, the Father would pour out His love for the world.

Men controlled by Satan and his evil angels crucified the Son of God, but the Father raised Him to life again and took Him back to Heaven (Gal. 1:1, 1Pet. 1:3). The Son asked the Father to restore to Him the glory He had once shared with the Father, before He became a man - before the earth was created (John 17:1-5). This the Father did in the gift of His Holy Spirit (Acts 2:33). The Spirit of the Father became also the Spirit of the Son. This Spirit restored to the Son His capacity to be omnipresent.

Before His death Christ had promised His disciples, “I will pray the Father and He will give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you” (John 14:16-18).

Who is this Comforter, Who stood “with” them even as He spoke, but would soon “be *in* them?” Who could take the place of their beloved Jesus?

No one could take His place. “And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son, into your hearts, crying out, ‘Abba, Father!’” (Gal. 4:6). The Spirit of the Son, the vital presence of their master, would be with them always. The Holy Spirit is Jesus - in spirit. He is “Christ in you, the hope of glory” (Col. 1:27).

Jesus said, “I will not leave you orphans; *I will come to you*” (John 14:18). “And lo, *I am with you always*, even to the end of the world?” (Matt. 28:20). “For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them” (Matt. 18:20).

“The first Adam became a living being. The last Adam became a life-giving Spirit” (1Cor. 15:45). Christ the man, became Christ the Holy Spirit. “Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty” (2Cor. 3:17). “He who descended (into the grave) is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things” (Ephesians 4:10). The Comforter is Christ Himself - not Christ in body, but Christ in spirit. He is with us and in us!

Through Jesus, the Father has poured upon us His Holy Spirit (Titus 3:4-5, 1John 4:12-13, 1John 3:23-24). This is the Spirit which “proceeds from the Father” (John 15:26), through Christ to men. Jesus said, “If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!” (Luke 11:13).

Christ has received from the Father the gift of His Spirit. This gift has enabled Christ to baptize us with His own Spirit (Matt. 3:11, John 20:21-22). Every spiritual gift is given to us by the Father, through Christ the Son (Acts 2:33, Eph 4:7-8). We are strengthened by the Spirit of the Father in our inner being, that Christ may dwell in our hearts, (Eph 3:14-18) and through this gift we become the extension of Christ in this world..

The Father has given this world into the hands of Christ. He is the only Mediator between God and man (1Tim. 2:5). When the great war between good and evil finally comes to an end, when every enemy of God is either reconciled or destroyed, then Christ will deliver to His Father the kingdom He has won. Then Christ Himself will be subject to His Father, “for the Head of Christ is God” (1Cor. 11:3). For eternity to come, God Our Father will be all in all (1Cor. 15:14-18).