

Ministration of the Spirit

(12/18/16)

- I. *Rev 22:17*- Spirit and the bride say come (invitation/bidding)
 - A) *Luke 14:16-24*- Servant (Holy Spirit) seeking bride is power at work in the invisible Kingdom of God
 - 1) *Matt 22:1-14*- Servants (men) seeking others to enter the House of God are the vessels at use in the visible Kingdom of Heaven
 - i. Thus in the 2 parables the Spirit (KOG) and the bride (KOH) say come
- II. Contrast of the idea of the participants in the 2 covenants
 - A) *Ex 19:1-6*- The Old Covenant sought a wife by works of men
 - 1) *Deut 6:24-25*- Israel trusted in their own righteous works
 - 2) *Rom 9:30 – 10:4*- Israel's blinded self righteousness
 - B) *Ezek 36:22-27*- The New Covenant seeks a wife by faith in work of Christ
 - 1) *1 Pet 2:9*- Believers a spiritual priesthood by faith
 - 2) *Rom 3:19-24*- Believers trust in the righteousness of Christ
 - i. Picture 2 women in marriages; one serving in fear and trembling, knowing her performance is the means of securing the promises of the marriage; the other dwelling in peace and safety, knowing that the love of her husband secures her position in his house.
 - a) *Rom 8:37 & Rev 1:5*
- III. The first covenant had to be done away in order for the second covenant to be enacted
 - A) *Rom 7:1-6*- Marriage is abolished by death of the Husband
 - 1) *Heb 7:11-22*- The first covenant "annulled"
- IV. The "better" covenant of the Book of Hebrews
 - A) *Heb 1:1-4*- Better revelation
 - B) *Heb 6:9*- Better salvation
 - C) *Heb 7:19*- Better hope
 - D) *Heb 7:20-28*- Better priesthood
 - E) *Heb 7:20-28*- Better testament
 - F) *Heb 8:6*- Better covenant
 - G) *Heb 8:6*- Better promises
 - H) *Heb 9:23*- Better sacrifices
 - I) *Heb 10:34*- Better substance
 - J) *Heb 11:16*- Better city/country
 - K) *Heb 11:35*- Better resurrection
 - L) *Heb 12:24*- Better blood
- V. *2 Cor 3:1-17*- Ministration of Death -vs- Ministration of the Spirit
 - A) Ministration= "The act of performing service as a subordinate agent"

- 1) In the New Covenant, the Spirit is the agent at work
 - 2) So in Old Covenant, death was the agent at work
 - i. *John 12:31*- prince of this world cast out at cross
 - ii. *John 14:30*-prince of this world had nothing in Christ (nothing to accuse him of as He was perfect and kept the Law)
 - a) Then the Law was a tool that could be used by Satan to accuse man of sin as all are guilty
 - iii. *John 16:11*- prince of this world judged by the performance and work of the lord Jesus Christ
 - a) *Heb 2:14-15*- Satan **HAD** the power of death as long as the Old Covenant was in effect, as long as God was requiring man's righteousness, Satan could always accuse man and rightly so
 1. *1 John 3:8*- Christ destroyed the works of the devil
 2. *Gal 3:13-18*- The Law was abolished that the Covenant by faith might be established, and that Satan would no longer hold the power of death by the Law
 3. *Gal 4:1-7*- Man no longer servants under bondage in God's eyes
 - (a) *John 15:13-15*- no longer servants but friends (night before the cross and just after last supper [betrothal])
 - iv. *Acts 26:18*- Turn from the power of darkness
 - a) *2 Cor 4:3-4*- Satan continues to hold the power over men today by a lie, by convincing the world the Law is still in effect, by blinding men to the Gospel and teaching them their performance is still the means of entering God's House
- B) *2 Cor 3:7-9*- Old Covenant brought/brings condemnation and New Covenant brings righteousness
- 1) *John 5:24*- Passed from "death unto life" (from Ministration of Death to the Ministration of Life [Spirit])
 - 2) *Rom 6:23*- Wages of sin is death (Old) but gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord (New)
 - 3) *Rom 8:1-3*- No condemnation to those "in Christ Jesus" (in New Covenant)
 - 4) *1 Tim 3:6*- Paul warns against a new-comer taking charge in the assembly, lest pride make him come under Satan's condemnation
 - i. *Rom 12:3*- Not to think more highly of yourself (and your performance) than you ought to think
 - a) Coming to a true understanding of exactly how unrighteous and unworthy our flesh is, and truly giving up on it's performance, thus reckoning it "dead" is not something that happens overnight, but only through time and experience through the chastening of the Lord's word. Thus, even though a man may say all the right things and

profess himself to be nothing at first, until he truly experience it, like Abraham did in Gen 16, he shouldn't be put in a position to lead an assembly as it will swell his pride and self-worth or glorying in his position or his perceived knowledge. **(I know this one first hand)**

5) *Rom 4:15*- Law worketh wrath ("do it or else" always produces rebellion in man)

i. *Rom 7:5*- Law increased fruit unto death

a) *Rom 3:20*- By the Law is the knowledge of sin (failure)

VI. 2 *Cor 3:6*- Paul also a minister of the New Testament

A) *Rom 7:6*- Newness of Spirit (New Covt.) -vs- Oldness of the Letter (Old Covt.)

1) *John 6:63*- Words of God are Spirit and Life

i. *Rom 10:17*- Faith comes by hearing the word of God

ii. *Rom 8:17*- The Spirit (of **Promise**) is given the moment a person believes, it accompanies righteousness, and one can't be without the other

a) This all takes place in a believer by recognition of and then by faith in the promises of God through His word

1. *Rom 4:16-24*- Same as Abraham

iii. *Rom 8:23*- Paul calls this the "firstfruits of the Spirit" and it is the promise of the Spirit of the New Covenant

a) *Heb 10:12-22*- Hebrews agrees

b) *James 1:18*- James agrees

c) *1 Pet 1:23*- Peter agrees

d) *1 John 2:24-27*- John agrees

2) *1 Cor 2:13*- Compare spiritual things with spiritual

i. *Heb 7:16 & 9:10*- Old is carnal, New is spiritual

ii. *Eph 1:3*- We have been given "all spiritual blessings" in Christ

iii. *1 Cor 9:11*- Paul sowing spiritual things

iv. *1 Pet 2:5-9*- A spiritual house and spiritual priesthood by faith and not by works (*Ex 19:3-6*)

B) *Rom 15:27*- We have been made partakers of Israel's spiritual things

1) If we have been made partakers then they must have been theirs as well

i. *Rom 9:4-5*- All things belonging to Israel

a) *Eph 2:11-12*- Gentiles could have no part of these things as long as they are uncircumcised and not part of the nation to whom the promises belonged

1. *Eph 2:13-21*- In order to make these spiritual promises available to all men, God would need to abolish the thing that caused the difference in the flesh, the Law (Old Covenant)

- (a) Therefore, we are made nigh to the Promises today, not by becoming Jews as Replacement theology teaches, but by the cross which abolished the Law
 - (1) *Gal 3:13-16*- Promises couldn't come by Law (Old)
- C) Ministration of the Spirit is the "ministry" of the Holy Spirit (*John 14-16*)
 - 1) *Gen 24*- Abraham (Father) sends his servant (Holy Spirit) to find a bride for his son (Christ) after the son had been resurrected from the dead in a figure (*Gen 22*)
 - i. Notice the degradation: Abraham sought a proper wife for his son, Isaac didn't approve of his son's wife but didn't lift a finger in the obtaining of her or putting her out, and Jacob cared less about who his children married (Judah married a Canaanite)
 - 2) Spirit dwelling in us:
 - i. *Ezek 36:27, John 14:16-17, Rom 8:9, 1 Cor 3:16, 1 John 2:27, Joel 2:28, Luke 11:13, Luke 24:49, John 7:39, John 16:7*
 - 3) Spirit the Teacher:
 - i. *Luke 12:12, John 14:26, 1 Cor 2:13, 1 John 2:27*
 - 4) Spirit's ministry:
 - i. *John 16:13, Acts 8:39, Acts 10:19-20, Acts 13:2, Acts 16:6, Rom 8:14, Gal 5:18, Eph 3:20, 1 Thess 2:13, 1 Cor 12:6-11, Gal 2:8, Gal 3:5, Gal 5:6, Phil 2:13, Col 1:29*
 - 5) Spirit of Truth:
 - i. *John 14:17, John 15:26, John 16:7-8, John 16:13, 1 John 4:6*