

**THE ONE TRUE GOD LESSON #6**  
**THE LOUD CRY OF THE FOURTH ANGEL**  
**IS THE TRINITY SUPPORTED IN SCRIPTURE?**

**INTRODUCTION**

We have studied the Godhead from the spirit of prophecy. Now we will look at the Godhead from the Bible and see if there is agreement between both. Remember we will allow each word to have its proper influence upon our understanding of the text. If we can form our opinion without any contradiction then we cannot be in error. Let us pray:

Father grant us Thy holy spirit that we may have understanding of Thy Word. I ask this in the name of your Son. Amen.

We will begin in Genesis 1:1, 2.

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.”

**NOTE:** Who is the spirit in this verse? The Spirit here is God’s spirit. Notice that Elohim is the plural form. It can represent both the Father and Son signifying that the spirit is of both. The Trinitarians claim that this text reveals three different beings were involved in creation but there is no mention of the spirits identification as a third being, rather the spirit is said to **be the spirit of God not a third being**. Let’s look for a moment at Hosea and Joel to get a clear picture of just who the spirit really is. We will come back to Gen.1 after.

Hosea 6:3 “Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the **LORD**: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and **he** (the LORD)

**shall come unto us** as the rain, as **the latter and former rain** unto the earth.”

**NOTE:** Here the word LORD is all capitals signifying that it is the Father. So, it is the Father who comes to us as the latter rain.

Where else is “the latter rain” spoken of?

Joel 2:23. “Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.

**NOTE:** The Lord your God is YAHWAH your Elohim, and represents the Father. It is the Father who gives His spirit as this latter rain through His Son Jesus.

What is the latter rain and who sends it?

Isiah 44:3. “For **I** will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: **I will pour my spirit** upon thy seed, and **my blessing** upon thine offspring:” It says “I will pour My spirit upon thy seed.” How can anyone make that into someone other than the Father? We need to think about that!

**NOTE:** It is clear that what is being poured out as water is really the spirit as the latter rain, it is as “floods upon the ground.” What better way to indicate much rain? In Joel 2:23 “He gives the early rain moderately” indicating that the latter rain is to be heavy or poured out in “floods upon the dry ground,” or in abundance. To clarify who the person I, and My represents we must look at verse 2 of Isa. 44. “Thus, saith the **LORD** that made thee, and formed thee from

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the womb, which will help thee; Fear not, O Jacob, my servant; and thou, Jesurun, whom I have chosen.” It is clear that it is YAHWAH, WHO, THROUGH CHRIST CREATED ALL THINGS. BOTH THE FATHER AND THE SON WERE INVOLVED IN CREATION. Christ carried out the Fathers will. What is the spirit that is poured out? Romans 8:9. “But ye are not in the flesh, but in the spirit, if so be that the **spirit of God** dwell in you. Now if any man have not the **spirit of Christ**, he is none of His.” It is obvious from this that both Father and Son have one and the same spirit. **Ruach** in verse three of Isaiah 44 is the word for **spirit**. The definition is word #H7307 in Strong’s Concordance. It means “air, anger, blast, breath, courage, **and mind**. Ruach came to mean the entire **immaterial** (without form) consciousness of man.” (Or of God). Emphasis mine. It simply means the mind of God or the mind of man. Remember this definition, we will refer to it later.

We will now return to Joel 2 looking at verses 27 and 28:

“And ye shall know that **I am** in the midst of Israel, and that **I am** the LORD your God, and none else: and **my** people shall never be ashamed. And it shall come to pass **afterward**, that I will pour out **my** spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.”

**NOTE:** It is obvious, the great **I Am** is the one who pours out the spirit. In verse 28 it says “and it shall come to pass afterward”. After what? We must look in verse 27 to find the answer. “Ye shall know that **I am** in the **midst of Israel** and that **I am** the **LORD your God**, and **NONE** else.”

**I am** is a reference to the Father and Christ as the one that spoke with Moses at the burning bush and declaring “I AM that I AM”. The words, LORD your God, means YAHWAH

your God (Elohim). It refers to the Father as being the only God. “**Afterward**” refers to, after “**I AM is in the midst of Israel**”, then it is that **He pours out His spirit upon all flesh in latter rain abundance**. If you pay close attention to the words and let each word have its PROPER meaning in the context it cannot be referring to a third being separate from the Father and the Son. When the word spirit is used in the Bible you will find that it always refers to the Father’s spirit or to the Son’s spirit or to both, never to another being. John 4:24. “God is a spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”

Here is a paraphrase of what we have just learned: V. 27. “And ye shall know that I AM in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed. V. 28. (Paraphrased) And when I AM in the midst of Israel, then afterward I will pour out **MY spirit** upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams. Your young men shall see visions.”

It is after Christ and the Father have made their abode in the heart-the soul temple-that the latter rain is poured out. John 14:23. “Jesus answered and said unto him, if a man loves me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and **we will come unto him, and make our abode with him**.” Are we not told in Ephesians 3: 19 that we are to be filled with “**all the fullness of God?**”

Now let us return to Hosea 6:3. We will be able to understand it better now.

“Then shall **we know**, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and **HE shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth**.”

**NOTE:** It is plain that it is the LORD sending himself as the spirit. Remember that the

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definition for spirit is mind, breath, intellect. And is the “entire immaterial consciousness” of God. It is the LORD Himself, that’s coming in latter rain abundance as the holy spirit. Now let us return to Gen. and see how many are involved in creation.

Genesis 1:1, 2 the word for God is Elohim, the plural form, denoting that it is the mind of the Father and the Son that hovered or moved over the face of the waters at creation. This is not a third divine being as god but is Elohim as the spirit at the creation of our world! Elohim is the plural form for El (God) indicating that the Father is speaking to His Son, it is a conversation between both, there is no indication in this text to identify a third God to be involved.

IN LIFT HIM UP 47:2, 3. It is made clear that only two are involved in creation, the Father and the Son. Here is the statement:

“The **Father and the Son engaged in the mighty, wondrous work they had contemplated--of creating the world.** ...After the earth was created, and the beasts upon it, **the Father and Son carried out their purpose**, which was designed before the fall of Satan, to make man in their own image. **They had wrought together in the creation of the earth and every living thing upon it.** And now **God said to His Son**, "Let **us** (two not three) make man in our image." {LHU-Lift Him Up- 47.2, 3}.

**NOTE:** The conversation is between Father and Son only, which makes two not three. It was the Father and His Son that created the earth. It was the Father and Son who carried out their purpose of creation. And they had wrought together. **Together** means two not three! The holy spirit was the spirit of the Father and the spirit of the Son. For God is Himself the spirit. (See John 4:24).

Let’s look at Psalm 139:1 and onward

“To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David. **O LORD**, thou hast searched me, and known me. **Thou** knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, **thou** understandest my thought afar off. **Thou** compasses my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. “For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, **O LORD**, thou knowest it altogether. **Thou** hast beset me behind and before, and laid **thine** hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it. Whither shall I go from **thy spirit?** Or whither shall I flee from **thy presence?**”

**NOTE:** The LORD’S presence is the holy spirit in another form (see John 14:16)! You cannot hide or flee from the LORD anywhere in the universe. See on Ps.139 8-18.

Let us now go to the New Testament to see if there has been a change from the holy spirit being the presence of the Father and Son.

Acts 2:16-21. “But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; and it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will **pour out of my spirit** upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of **my spirit**; and they shall prophesy: And **I will** (God manifested as the spirit) show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

**NOTE:** This is a quote from Joel 2 and speaks of the spirit as being from the LORD and not as a third person separate from Himself. Let us see if the word spirit as used in the New Testament has the same meaning as in the Old Testament.

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The Greek word Pneuma which is word #G4151 translated to English as spirit. Its definition: “by which man **perceives, reflects, feels, desire, purpose, aim, character, moral qualities and activities, the inward man.**” From Lexical Aids of the New Testament. In other words, his mind. In Joel 2:28-32 spirit is word #H3707- Ruach- “denotes the rational mind as the seat of the senses, affections, emotions of various kinds, the mode of thinking and action, the will, the intellect. It means wind, **mind, spirit,**” (of man or of God). Lexical Aids of the New Testament. Notice that spirit either Ruach, or Pneuma designates the mind of the Father and the Son, also the mind of man depending on the context of the sentence in which it appears. What does this mean? Simply that the spirit of God is not another God person but is the spirit or presence of the Father and the Son.

Let’s look at John 1:1-5, 9, 10, and 14.

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

I want to inject a quote from the Youth Instructor. I know I explained this in lesson #2 but I will explain it a little different here, too give a better understanding. It says: “Who is Christ?—He is the **only begotten Son** of the living God, He is to the Father as a **word that expresses the thought,—As a thought made audible.**” YI. JUNE 28, 1894: 9. Christ is the word of God. I ask you, how are words formed? First there is a living being, next there must be a voice box, vocal cords, the lungs to move air over and through the vocal cords in the voice box, and the mind to control everything. Thought originates in the brain but thought cannot be expressed except by speech. This requires air flowing through the voice box, the tongue and mouth must be used to form the words, the brain to control the mouth and tongue and the mind for articulation so that the correct word is formed. Does this not sound like Strong’s Concordance when it gives the definition of spirit as air,

breath, wind, mind, intellect, the mode of thinking and action, etc. These are the things required for the spirit to exist. Now you see how the spirit is really the mind of the Father and the Son for they both have the same spirit. They still have their individuality just like you when you become one with the Father and Son by incorporating the fruit of the spirit within yourselves, which are, goodness, meekness, kindness, long suffering, love, joy, and peace etc. This is the mind of God! Now, let’s go back to John 1:2: “The same was in the beginning with God. V. 3. **All things were made by him;** (Christ was in existence before His incarnation), and without him was not anything made that was made.” [He was begotten (born) at some point in eternity past before creation began]. V. 4. “**In him was life; (breath) and the life was the light** of men. V. 5. And the **light** shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. V. 9. **That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.** V. 10. He was in the world, and **the world was made by him,** and the world knew him not. V. 14. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only **begotten of the Father**) full of grace and truth.” John 6:63 “It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the **words** (breath and mind) that I speak unto you, they are **spirit**, and they are life.”

**NOTE:** “The **words** that I speak, they are **spirit** and they are life”! Words are formed by the spirit (breath) passing through the vocal cords in the voice box. The word for spirit here is “pneuma” meaning to “breath, blow, primarily denotes wind.” “From Lexical Aids to the new Testament”. Since the Spirit also represents the intellect or mind, we can see how it takes the mind to originate the thought, but it takes the spirit which is “breath” to make the thought audible. And so, you have the word of God formed by combining breath, voice, and mind! You can see how the person of Christ or the Father themselves make up the spirit! “Breath like wind is

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Virgil Prindle

invisible (no body), immaterial (again no body), and powerful. Mental disposition, vital principle.” “From Lexical Aids”. So, Jesus’ words are spirit (being formed in the voice box) and they are life. “Jesus was the word and He became flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory.” Jesus is the Father’s word, (wind, breath, etc.) “A body hast thou prepared for me.” And that word is to have a body prepared for Him again in each of us. We are to be recipients of the mind (spirit) of Christ. Philippians 2:5.

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T.L.C.F.A.M.

What does Paul say regarding the spirit? 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 3:17, 18 (see margin) “**Now the Lord is THAT spirit:** and where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the spirit (breath or mind) of the Lord.” So, what have we learned about John 1:1-5? Unlike what most Trinitarians want us to believe about this text proving that there is a trinity, we find that it absolutely proves just the opposite! That there are only two who are in the Godhead! That is the Father and the Son. Where is the concept here that supports a third person in the Godhead? It is a fact that over and over we are shown in scripture the same thing, that the spirit is either referred to as the Father’s spirit, or the Son’s spirit, or as both their spirit, and never as a third person!

To answer the question asked at the beginning of the lesson. Is the trinity supported in scripture? There is not one scripture that clearly defines a three in one God. All other original beliefs of the S.D.A. Church can be backed by plain statements from the word of God, but not the doctrine of the trinity! Let us pray:

Dear Father, I thank You for the truth of Your Word. Help us to understand and comprehend with clarity its meaning. I know You will answer this request because I ask it in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Your brother in Christ,