

Mary Craig Ministries, Inc.

The Glory Spirit: Revealing Insights to the Kingdom of God

June-July 2015

I. The Glory Presence

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void. It was in a state of unbounded deep-and-darkness. Then the Word of God speaks of the presence of the Creator who would make light shine in the darkness and set bounds to the waters. The Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

The Spirit of God, the Glory Spirit hovered. As a friend said to me, this is the picture of a parent watching over their child, being actively engaged in the care, protection, and well-being of their child. In Deuteronomy 32:11 the Glory Spirit led Israel through "the waste howling wilderness" on the way to Canaan like an eagle hovering protectively over its young, spreading out its wings to support them, guiding them on to maturity.

<u>Insight to the Kingdom</u>: We need the Glory Spirit hovering over us. Ask Him to hover over you and over your family. The Holy Spirit fights for the life of His children. We need the Presence of the Glory Spirit in our lives.

God turns chaos and darkness into order and light.

What Genesis 1:2 identified as the Spirit, Hebrews 1:2, 3 identifies as the Son, Jesus Christ, Son of God, God the Son. Hebrews attributes to the Son the creation of the world. The Son is the image and glory of God. The Son is the radiance of His glory and the very image of His being. Give this your earnest attention:

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spoke in time past unto the fathers, by the prophets, has in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds who being the brightness of His Glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the Word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high. Hebrews 1:1-3

This refers to the revelation of the Father by the Son in creation.

In beginning-ness always was the Word; and the Word always was with God, [face-to-face], and the Word always was God. John 1:1

II. The Glory Image

We will not understand God's plan apart from understanding that God relates to His creation in the context of Covenant. God is a Covenant-keeping God. His Covenants are unilateral; there's no discussion, no negotiating terms. There is only keeping the Covenant.

God made a Covenant with Adam. Some call it the Covenant of Creation. Some call it the Adamic Covenant. Some call it the Covenant of Works. All people owe God personal, perfect, perpetual obedience on the basis of the Creator-created relationship alone. Adam had access to the Tree of Life. He was supposed to guard that and protect Eve. Adam had one commandment; don't eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Eve ate and nothing happened. The Covenant was made with Adam. Adam turned to believe in another wisdom, to obey another wisdom. In doing so, he rejected Christ the Wisdom of God, the Spirit of Wisdom, and God Only Wise. (Genesis 3:5, 6) Adam ate and humanity was plunged into the estate of sin and misery. God came with the first covenant lawsuit.

Adam and Eve had been created in the image of God. They were created to have dominion (not exploitation or domination) over the creation; to bear the Glory-Image of their Creator as a moral image; and to shine with the light of the Glory-Spirit. When they sinned, God came pronouncing judgment for the consequences.

And they heard the Voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool [ruach; breath; spirit] of the day; and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. Genesis 3:8

This was not the wind waltzing through the trees; this was the thundering, terrifying Presence of the Almighty, the Alpha and Omega. Adam heard the Voice and was afraid. In the Presence of the Glory-Spirit, they were exposed and their sin was judged. This was a "day of the LORD" event, a visitation.

Yet God initiated the beginning of a Covenant of Grace in Genesis 3:15. "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; it shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."

<u>Insight to the Kingdom</u>: The Lord of Glory creates and consummates. He is Alpha and Omega. God's plan is wrapped up in this Covenant summation: I will be your God; and you will be My people. All of Revelation closes with: *I will be his God; and he shall be My son.* (Rev. 21:7)

Believers in Jesus Christ will be joined, body to head, filled with the Glory-Spirit, bearing in full the Glory-Image, conformed fully to the Image of Jesus Christ, who reigns Supreme.

III. The Purpose

God purposed to glorify His Son, Jesus Christ. Though He is complete and needs nothing, He purposed to fellowship with humanity that He might reveal Himself. The heavens declare the glory of God. Jesus Christ bore witness to the Truth, to the Life, to the Way. The Father, the Word of God, and the works of Christ, bear witness that Jesus is the Christ, the Incarnate Glory-Image, the Incarnate Word dwelling among us.

The Spirit at the beginning overarched creation as a divine witness to the Covenant of Creation, as a sign that creation existed under God's covenant lordship. Now, God sent His Son to bear witness to the New Covenant in His Blood, as a sign that everything in heaven and in earth and under the earth and every name exists under God's covenant lordship, His sovereignty, His rule.

With the coming of Christ, the Kingdom has come in grace. With the coming of Christ in glory, the Kingdom will come in great power, shaking everything that can be shaken. There will be and is now, sifting and sorting, separation, and sanctification.

The Law, which is holy, spiritual, and good, showed people under the Mosaic Covenant the boundaries of life and death; showed what love looks like; separated holy from unholy, clean from unclean. The Law has no power to save; it points to the need of a Savior.

<u>Insight to the Kingdom</u>: Salvation comes by Promise. And who is the Promise of the Father? The Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ came according to Promise, born a child of the Holy Spirit. He bore the Image of the Glory, walked in dominion over devils, disease, and death, and all things, and lived the Life of personal, perfect, perpetual obedience, always doing those things that please the Father. He merited for His own the right to the Tree of Life, eternal life. He came as Sinbearer, Bearer of the Curse, and Bearer of the Wrath of God. He came as Mediator and Surety of the New Covenant in His Blood. He accomplished what He was sent by the Father to do.

He came unto His own, but His own received Him not, but as many as received HIM, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name; which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. John 1:11-13

Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit. For what purpose? The Holy Spirit applies what Jesus has accomplished. It is the Holy Spirit, the Glory Spirit, who regenerates. Jesus said it. The Holy Spirit is The Life-Producer. John 6:63. The Holy Spirit produces the Life of the Kingdom and produces eternal life in what Scripture calls the Elect, the called-out-ones, those born-out-of-God ones.

Jesus "haptos" [Strong's G680] people. He takes ahold of someone with a firm grip. Of His own, He loses none. Believers are in the grip of His grace.

The Holy Spirit sees to it that the purpose of God is brought to perfect fulfillment. That purpose is that we might bear the image of God in the face of Jesus Christ in order to glorify Him by enjoying Him forever.

For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, has shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 4:6

And so there is in our lives, a sifting and sorting, separation, and sanctification. There is a beginning and an end. The light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ shines with the radiance of the Glory-Spirit into our darkness. Jesus Christ, the Image of the Glory, shows up, shines forth, shoots down His enemies, and strengthens our faith. The Spirit of burning and the Spirit of judgment, the Spirit of the day, comes in to consume all that is contrary to God's nature and ways. Out of that comes a new beginning.

Wherefore 2 Corinthians 6:15-18 says:

And what concord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has he that believes with an infidel? 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 in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. [It's going to happen.] Wherefore come out from among them, and be separate, says the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." [It's going to happen.]

IV. The Life in the Kingdom of God

What is the Life in the Kingdom of God?

The Life: having dominion (not domination) over the earth, to tend and guard the Garden; bearing the role of being a kingdom of priests unto God, not to lord it over others, but to serve Him, minister to Him, proclaim Him and His message among the nations. Those in the true Church are called to promote justice, preserve truth, protect the flock, minister to the poor and needy, and to propagate the gospel of Jesus Christ in the bond of unity and peace.

The Spirit produces Life; He is the Life-Producer. He produces the Life when one is born again, born out of God, born a child of the Holy Spirit. He produces peace, joy, and righteousness, which is the Kingdom of God, a kingdom that is within those for whom Christ died. He applies what Jesus has accomplished.

And what has Jesus accomplished? A way to bring people back to the Father, namely through His sacrifice on the Cross; through redemption by means of the offering of His life; through reconciliation; through the satisfaction of divine justice and divine wrath; and through the destruction work of destroying Satan, His kingdom and works, the works of darkness.

And how does Jesus transform a life? Through the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of Truth, the Spirit of Holiness, the Spirit of Burning and of Judgment, the Spirit of Grace, the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus, the Eternal Spirit, the Promise of the Father, the Paraclete and Comforter, the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation, the Spirit of the day, the Glory-Spirit.

And what are we to do? Believe in Jesus, believe Jesus, and believe what Jesus believes. **Want a big clue to the Kingdom of God?**

1) Turn your focus to the faith of Jesus Christ, to what He believes and knows to be fact, to be truth, to be real.

- 2) Ask Jesus for His faith. Jesus is the Author and Finisher of our faith. It begins with Him, goes forth from Him into us, and returns to Him. Jesus Christ is Alpha and Omega.
- 3) Ask Jesus and the Father for the Glory-Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Faith.

Ask for the Glory-Spirit. Remember, God is about beginnings and endings. We may think we are at the end of ourselves, at the end of a chapter in our lives, but the Glory-Spirit can hover over us, bring order into chaos and light into darkness. He can create a new thing and bring that new thing to completion.

And what does the Father receive? Glory. Get back to the Father through Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, the Glory-Spirit, and give Him the full weight, ALL the glory.

You can listen to the live broadcast of this message, given June 25, 2015 at the On This Rock Family Conference in Fort Lauderdale, FL under Dr. Lois Delevoe, here:

http://yourlisten.com/marycraig/062515-on-this-rock-family-conference-the-glory-spirit

or at www.mcmtffr.org where our audio files, study handouts, and radio broadcasts are archived...free to you.

Thank you for your donations, your prayers, and willing participation in MCM's international ministry. Your much appreciated gifts enable us to help families in need through our Barnabas Project and to take the gospel of Jesus Christ around the world and across backyard fences, to teach and train and make disciples, and to minister to you. May you continue to give gladly, generously, and graciously, as the Holy Spirit leads you, and as MCM reaches out globally, locally, and online. May the Spirit of Glory and of God rest upon you.

To the Praise of His Glory,

Mary Craig

Mary Craig, D. Min.

The Spirit is the Life-Producer [the One giving life].

The flesh profits absolutely nothing: the words that I speak unto you,

Spirit are and life are. Jesus, John 6:63

© 2015 Mary Craig Ministries, Inc. All rights reserved.

P.S. Thank you for giving to MCM! Donate: Mary Craig Ministries, Inc., P. O. Box 4610, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33338-4610 or through PayPal® online at www.marycraig.org. Go to marycraig.org for the latest articles and words received. Take a look and see all that God is doing through this ministry, in world missions, in evangelism, the Barnabas Project, Craighouse® Christian Fellowship, home visitation, Kinetic

Koinonia, media, Bible study books available through the <u>online Catalog</u>, and more. Worship with us 4:30 p.m. Sundays. Grow and flourish in small group ministry at Craighouse® Christian Fellowship, located in the Pompano Plaza at 114 E. Mc Nab Road, Pompano Beach, FL 33060. Log on to www.craighouse.org for a map, current events, and Bible studies. Reach MCM at 954-491-7270. Send in your prayer requests. Follow MCM Bible teachings and Rev. Jim Craig's sermons; go to www.marycraig.org and click on "Audio Bible Studies" or "Divine Appointment" radio ministry; or go to www.marycraig.org and teachings and Friday night handout sheets. Free. Go to www.marycraigverses.org for "Enjoying God for Life," daily encouragement and growing in your faith. Go to www.mcm.phanfare.com for some pictures of MCM world missions. To have Dr. Mary Craig speak at your church or conference contact her at mary@marycraig.org. Mary Craig Ministries, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit corporation founded in 1993. Federal ID 65-0429517.