

“THE MANIFESTATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT”

- d. Logic demands different wording. Since God uses a totally different vocabulary that is unique to the Administration of Grace, He must be letting us know that something is new and different.
6. The Holy Spirit was promised in the Old Testament or the Millennial Kingdom, the 1000-year reign of Christ, but was given to us (the Church) now as a surprise by God in the form of Grace.
 - a. The very fact that it was promised in the Old Testament and Gospels means that the people of those times did not yet have it.

{LESSON 17B} {2/8/2009}

“SALVATION IS GUARANTEED PERMANENT”

PART IV

“PUTTING HIS SEAL ON US”

- XXXIV. If Christians have spiritual seed, and the Holy Spirit given to them as a gift, are born again, and have been sealed by God, then we must admit, our salvation is guaranteed.
- A. Scripture supports this idea and says exactly that in 2 Corinthians 1:22 AMP: **“[He has also appropriated and acknowledged us as His by] putting His seal upon us and giving us His [Holy] Spirit in our hearts as the security deposit and guarantee [of the fulfillment of His promise].”**
1. God continues this guarantee in 2 Corinthians 5:5 AMP: **“Now He who has fashioned us [preparing and making us fit] for this very thing is God, Who also has given us the [Holy] Spirit as a guarantee [of the fulfillment of His promise].”**
 2. Again in Ephesians 1: 14 we find God’s guarantee concerning our salvation: **“That [Spirit] is the guarantee of our inheritance [the first fruits, the pledge and foretaste, the down payment on our heritage], in anticipation of its full redemption and our acquiring [complete] possession of it – to the praise of His glory.”**
 3. Those three verses say that our future is guaranteed, and there are no Scriptures like them in the Old Testament, none in the Four Gospels, and

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- none in the book of Revelation.
4. God has done something new and different for the Church.
 5. There are many versions of the Bible that do not translate the Greek word “arrhabon” as “guarantee,” but instead use “earnest,” “pledge,” or “deposit.”
 - a. The Greek word “arrhabon” means we are guaranteed being Raptured into heaven and given new, immortal bodies.
 6. Because the Church is born again of God’s imperishable spiritual seed, sealed with the Holy Spirit, and therefore guaranteed salvation, the very presence of the Holy Spirit permanently born in us gives us a divine nature.
 - a. This is supported in Scripture in 2 Peter 1:4: **“Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature....”**
 - b. This new divine nature is brought about through the gift of the Holy Spirit that makes us new creations in Christ.
 - c. This idea is supported in 2 Corinthians 5:17: **“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”**
 7. Christians having the divine nature are referred to as “saints”.
 - a. A better translation would be “holy ones” as revealed in 1 Corinthians 1:2 AMP: **“To the church (assembly) of God which is in Corinth, to those consecrated and purified and made holy in Christ Jesus, [who are] selected and called to be saints (God’s people), together with all those who in any place call upon and give honor to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:”**
 - b. God has had holy people through out the Bible.
 - c. However, in the Old Testament what made a person holy was the keeping of God’s law and obeying God.
 - d. In contrast, the Church Epistles make it clear that anyone who is a Christian is holy because God’s grace has allowed a “divine nature” to be implanted in them and now they are new creations.

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- e. What makes the difference? Different administrations, different rules!
- 8. The phrase “new creations” is literal, and is 100% accurate because the new nature, our gift of the Holy Spirit (new nature) was created in us by Father God.
 - a. Our first birth was not a creation, but our second birth is, because when we believed, God “created” new life within us.
 - b. Yes, people in the Old Testament and Gospels believed God, but they were never “created” anew.
 - c. When Abraham believed, God considered him righteous, but he was never “created” anew and given a divine nature, nor was anyone else before the Church began on the Day of Pentecost.

{LESSON 18A} {2/15/2009}

“GOD GIVES MAN A NEW LANGUAGE”

“THE COLLECTIVE CHURCH”

XXXV. The “Sacred Secret” has not only made believers to be new creations individually, but also collectively, they are part of a spiritual body called, “the Body of Christ”.

A. The above statement is made clear in 1 Corinthians 12:27AMP: **“Now you [collectively] are Christ’s body and [individually] you are members of it, each part severally and distinct [each part severally and distinct [each with his own place and function].”**

- 1. In Colossians 1:18 AMP we read, **“He also is the Head of [His] body, the church; seeing He is the Beginning, the Firstborn from among the dead, so that He alone in everything and in every respect might occupy the chief place [stand first and be preeminent].”**

“CONSIDERING THE UNIQUENESS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST”

B. There are some very important things to consider about the Church (Body of Christ).

- 1. First, it is unique to the Grace Administration, and is not mentioned before or after it.