

PNEUMA: The Spirit of Wisdom...Week 2

- The Wisdom of Solomon:

- ⁵ The LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream, and God said, **“What do you want? Ask, and I will give it to you!”**
- ⁶ Solomon replied, “You showed great and faithful love to your servant my father, David, because he was honest and true and faithful to you. And you have continued to show this great and faithful love to him today by giving him a son to sit on his throne.
- ⁷ “Now, O LORD my God, you have made me king instead of my father, David, but I am like a little child who doesn’t know his way around. ⁸ And here I am in the midst of your own chosen people, a nation so great and numerous they cannot be counted! ⁹ **Give me an understanding heart so that I can govern your people well and know the difference between right and wrong.** For who by himself is able to govern this great people of yours?”
- ¹⁰ **The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for wisdom.** ¹¹ So God replied, “Because you have asked for wisdom in governing my people with justice and have not asked for a long life or wealth or the death of your enemies— ¹² I will give you what you asked for! I will give you a wise and understanding heart such as no one else has had or ever will have! ¹³ And I will also give you what you did not ask for—riches and fame! No other king in all the world will be compared to you for the rest of your life! ¹⁴ And if you follow me and obey my decrees and my commands as your father, David, did, I will give you a long life.” (1 Kings. 3:5–14 NLT-SE)

I want you to teach out of
your heart and not your head.
I want you to share out of
your experience, not your
knowledge.

- The Spirit of Wisdom: Wisdom is not something; it is Someone.

- It is one thing to possess the gift called a word of wisdom. It is another thing to become possessed by the Spirit of Wisdom. ~ John Crowder, Seven Spirits Burning
- Acts 6:8-10
 - ⁸ Stephen, a man full of God’s grace and power, performed amazing miracles and signs among the people. ⁹ But one day some men from the Synagogue of Freed Slaves, as it was called, started to debate with him. They were Jews from



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Cyrene, Alexandria, Cilicia, and the province of Asia. ¹⁰ **None of them could stand against the wisdom and the Spirit with which Stephen spoke.** (Acts. 6:8–10 NLT-SE)

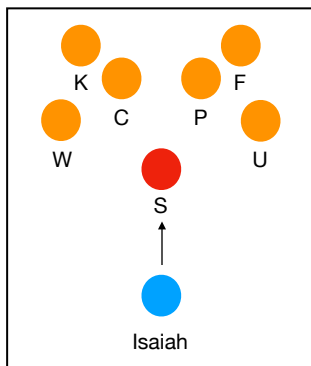
- Stephen didn't just operate in wisdom by the Spirit, but the Acts 6 says he was "full of" **faith, grace, power,** the **Spirit** and **wisdom** (Acts 6:3, 5, 8).
- A couple verses later, Stephen is brought before the high council and accused of threatening to undermine temple worship. As they stared at him, they realized that "**his face became as bright as an angel's.**" What they were witnessing was a true convergence of Heaven and Earth in the person of Stephen.



- The Seven Spirits of God:

- There are at least three possible interpretations of the seven spirits of God:
 - **The first...**is that the seven spirits of God are symbolic of the Holy Spirit. The Bible, and especially the book of Revelation, uses the number 7 to refer to perfection and completion. If that is the meaning of the "seven" in the "seven spirits," then it is not referring to seven different spirits of God, but rather the perfect and complete Holy Spirit.
 - **The second...**view is that the seven spirits of God refer to seven angelic beings, possibly the seraphim or the cherubim. This would fit with the numerous others angelic beings that are described in the book of Revelation (Revelation 4:6-9; 5:6-14; 19:4-5).
 - **A third...**possibility is based on Isaiah 11:2, which says, "The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him — the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD." This could possibly explain the seven spirits of God:

¹ Out of the stump of David's family will grow a shoot— yes, a new Branch bearing fruit from the old root. ² And the Spirit of the LORD will rest on him— the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. (Is. 11:1–2 NLT-SE)



•(1) **Spirit of the LORD...**At first glance, it appears that there are only six spirits. Western believers love to make lists. An Eastern perspective might be more wholistic and less compartmentalized. You have to ask yourself what it was that Isaiah "saw?"

•(2) and (3) Spirit of **Wisdom** and **Understanding...**Directs the HEART of a Jesus follower - **What we do.**

•(4) and (5) Spirit of **Counsel** and **Power...**Provides STRENGTH for the Jesus follower - **How we do it.**

- (6) and (7) Spirit of **Knowledge** and the **Fear of the Lord**...Makes room for HONOR in the life of a Jesus follower - **Why we do it.**

- The Bible doesn't tell us specifically who/what the seven spirits are, but the first interpretation, that they are the Holy Spirit, seems the most likely.

- Note: Isaiah referred to the Holy Spirit more than did any other Old Testament prophet (11:2 [four times]; 30:1; 32:15; 34:16; 40:13; 42:1; 44:3; 48:16; 59:21; 61:1; 63:10-11, 14).

- The Humility of God:

- The Holy Spirit, "may communicate on many levels and in different ways. He whispers to some and shakes others. To some He speaks through an ocean and to others through the beauty of a desert sunrise. Some enjoy a prayer closet while others see Him on every tree and in every breeze. One thing is certain, my friend: within the various methods, tones, and scenes through which the Holy Spirit speaks, **He really only says one thing...JESUS.**"
- "The Holy Spirit's focus on Jesus lets us into the very heartbeat of the Holy Spirit and, for that matter, the nature of the entire Trinity. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are always pointing us to another member of the Godhead. This quality is so beautiful and highlights an aspect of God that I believe is far too often overlooked in the Church today — **the humility of God**... It looks like this: **the Holy**



"Circling Around"

Spirit points us to Jesus.

Jesus points us to and perfectly represents the

Father. The Father, in turn,

says, "This is My beloved Son" (see Matt. 3:17; 17:5; Mark 9:7; Luke 9:35).

The Holy Spirit is the One who makes it possible to hear the Father and

see the Son. And the beautiful cycle continues forever and forever. Yes, my

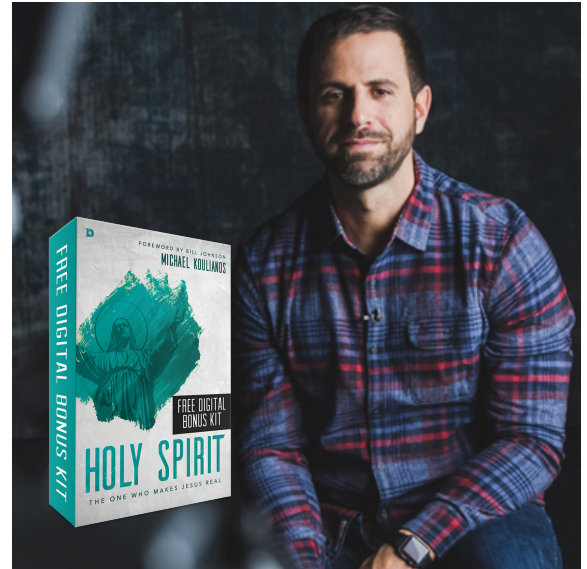
friend, the Trinity is beautifully captured by one another. As I say around the

world to thousands and thousands of people, "The Trinity is not a board of

directors in Heaven, trying their best to fix the world's problems. No!

They love one another deeply and are in covenant with themselves. It is

their deepest joy to reveal each member of the Trinity to us."



Michael Koulianos, *Holy Spirit: The One Who Makes Jesus Real*, by

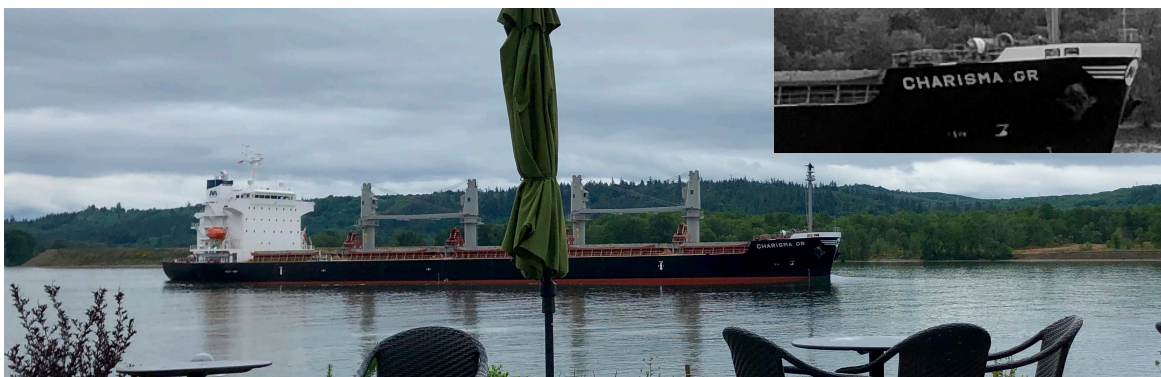
- The Holy Spirit has a Voice! ~ Proverbs 8:1-36

- ¹ Listen as Wisdom calls out! Hear as understanding raises her voice! ² On the hilltop along the road, she takes her stand at the crossroads. ³ By the gates at the entrance to the town, on the road leading in, she cries aloud, ⁴ "I call to you, to all of you! I raise my voice to all people. ⁵ You simple people, use good judgment. You foolish people, show some understanding. ⁶ Listen to me! For I have important things to tell you. Everything I say is right, ⁷ for I speak the truth and detest every kind of deception. ⁸ My advice is wholesome. There is nothing devious or crooked in it. ⁹ My words are plain to anyone with understanding, clear to those with knowledge. ¹⁰ Choose my instruction rather than silver, and knowledge rather than pure gold. ¹¹ For wisdom is far more valuable than rubies. Nothing you desire can compare with it.

- ¹² “I, Wisdom, live together with good judgment. I know where to discover knowledge and discernment. ¹³ All who fear the LORD will hate evil. Therefore, I hate pride and arrogance, corruption and perverse speech. ¹⁴ Common sense and success belong to me. Insight and strength are mine. ¹⁵ Because of me, kings reign, and rulers make just decrees. ¹⁶ Rulers lead with my help, and nobles make righteous judgments.



- ¹⁷ “I love all who love me. Those who search will surely find me. ¹⁸ I have riches and honor, as well as enduring wealth and justice. ¹⁹ My gifts are better than gold, even the purest gold, my wages better than sterling silver! ²⁰ I walk in righteousness, in paths of justice. ²¹ Those who love me inherit wealth. I will fill their treasuries.
- ²² “The LORD formed me from the beginning, before he created anything else. ²³ I was appointed in ages past, at the very first, before the earth began. ²⁴ I was born before the oceans were created, before the springs bubbled forth their waters. ²⁵ Before the mountains were formed, before the hills, I was born— ²⁶ before he had made the earth and fields and the first handfuls of soil. ²⁷ I was there when he established the heavens, when he drew the horizon on the oceans. ²⁸ I was there when he set the clouds above, when he established springs deep in the earth. ²⁹ I was there when he set the limits of the seas, so they would not spread beyond their boundaries. And when he marked off the earth's foundations, ³⁰ I was the architect at his side. I was his constant delight, rejoicing always in his presence. ³¹ And how happy I was with the world he created; how I rejoiced with the human family!
- ³² “And so, my children, listen to me, for all who follow my ways are joyful. ³³ Listen to my instruction and be wise. Don't ignore it. ³⁴ Joyful are those who listen to me, watching for me daily at my gates, waiting for me outside my home! ³⁵ For whoever finds me finds life and receives favor from the LORD. ³⁶ But those who miss me injure themselves. All who hate me love death.”



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