

GT-2 Contents, 5 pgs

p.1, STAGE 3, the fullness, leading, & power of the Spirit

After Jesus was publicly baptized, **the Spirit** came down out of heaven and remained on him. Jesus, **full of the Holy Spirit**, returned from the Jordan, **and was led by the Spirit into the desert** where he fasted the forty days after which **the devil tempted him**. *[After the devil failed to entice Jesus], he left him ... Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit ...*

In the 2013 movie, Ender's Game, when asked about a fight he was forced into by bullies, cadet **Ender Wiggan**, explained why he had to win decisively. *Knocking him down was the **first fight**. I wanted to win all the next ones too so they'd leave me alone.* Harrison Ford, head of the training program, explained to his subordinate, *It's not what he did, it's why. **It was tactical**.*

*No one can enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions **unless he first ties him up**.*

Upon resisting the devil in the desert, Jesus began robbing his house: healing the sick, diseased, and handicapped, casting out demons, and setting free captives. This one face-to-face engagement with the devil secured Jesus' victory in all future battles. The devil never again confronted him directly.

God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. *He went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the Devil, because God was with him.*

The Last Supper

The Passover was the commemoration of the last plague and judgment on Egypt which freed Israel from slavery. Jesus instituted a new memorial in his blood representing himself as the Passover lamb that symbolized his imminent substitutionary death and looked forward to a new era that will culminate in his second coming. He said, *I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine [celebrate] until the kingdom of God comes.*

p.2, THE NEW ERA, stage 2 – the Second Adam

*If, by the **trespass** of the one man [Adam], death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness **reign in life** through the one man, Jesus Christ ... just as through the disobedience of the one man [Adam] the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man [the second Adam] the many will be made righteous.*

Fulfillment: Symbols, Types, & Shadows give way to Reality

transitioning from inauguration to consummation of the Kingdom

The OT is well-seeded with divinely intended types. **A type is an object lesson**, a symbol that fore-shadows or predicts the actual, factual realization or fulfillment of the pictured reality. It is a picture prophecy. An antitype is the future realization to which the type points – the fulfillment of the picture prophecy.

The shadow exists because there is an [actual] substance that casts it. It is always an imperfect representation of the reality. The shadow at best outlines; the substance is the **essence**. A shadow disappears when the sun is directly overhead.

p.3, stage 2: the Holy Spirit & the Supernatural

The promise of Jesus to the disciples that the Holy Spirit would be “in them” was being realized. The giving of the Spirit was the heart of the promise of the Gospel in the OT, and it is the crowning experience of the Gospel under the NC. It is **the new status of sonship [stage 2]**. OC believers were ‘heirs in non-age’ waiting for the time of full-fledged ‘sonship’ to come, and the essence of that son-ship is the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

New Birth

To all who received the Word ... who believed in his name, he gave the authority to become children of God — children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision ... but born of God.

New Self

Put off your old self ... to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

New Creation, Mystical Union of the Church

Now ... you who once were so far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ our peace. He made both **[believing]** Jews and **[believing]** Gentiles into one group ... so that he could create one new person out of the two groups, making peace ... Christ is building you into a place where God lives through the Spirit.

The new man represents the people of God, both Jews and Gentiles who are united in and with Christ. He has created this corporate new person in himself; the new humanity is embraced in his own person. The church of Jesus Christ ... is **the true Israel**.

... we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another ...

p.4, Persecution of Christ's church

For your sake we encounter death all day long; we were considered as sheep to be slaughtered.

... You **[Thessalonians]** suffered from your own people **[Gentiles]** the same things those churches **[in Judea]** suffered from the Jews ...

The 7 churches in the **book of Revelation** represent all of Christ's churches scattered across the world and over time. Collectively it is **a church that is under attack**.

p.5, NATURALISM

Our generation is overwhelmingly **naturalistic**. There is an almost complete commitment to **[philosophical] materialism**, the concept of the uniformity of natural causes in a closed system ... perhaps the greatest reason for the loss of reality in Christians' lives is that while we say we believe one thing, we allow the spirit of the naturalism of the age to creep into our thinking, unrecognized. **Unfaith** is just the Christian sitting in the materialist's chair ... All of us sometimes find ourselves here ... We can carry on evangelism that way. But this is not "the Lord's work."

obstacles, hindrances, and problems for the people of God

rejoice when we run into problems and trials **[adversity]** , for we know that they help us develop endurance .

the New Commandment

A new command I give you: **Love one another** . As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

our New Disposition

Blessed are the meek [non-assertive], for they shall inherit the earth, And You have heard that it was said , You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you , Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you ... **Be careful not to practice your righteousness ... to be seen by others .**

p.6, our New Mission

As you are going **disciple all nations** , baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you.

AWAKENING

Schaeffer was revealing what is involved in walking in the fullness of the Spirit, and having the power of the Spirit NOW, MYSELF, stage 3 . I realized that I needed to approach my life with the Living God differently. I faced a spiritual reality crisis of my own and now know something of what he was talking about when he described his own crisis.

True Spirituality & the Supernatural Christian Life

Schaeffer begins discussing **stage 3**, the Christian life, by combining *true Christian life* with *true spirituality*. He emphasizes that **life as a Christian is spiritual in nature** ... Christian living proceeds from moment to moment first as a negative act of self-denial.

Daily death to self must come first if I am going to be alive to God. Furthermore, it is to be in the midst of the bloom of life. We are to live now by faith as though we have **already** been raised from the dead. **Our call to faith in this present life** is that we should live as though **dead to all things** [not only rejecting the bad things about ourselves, but also **not relying on the good things**] ... This is a **moment-by-moment stepping back** by faith into the present world as though we had been raised from the dead. There must be an act of the will in becoming a Christian and in bringing forth the fruit of the Spirit in the external world.

p.7, SUCCESS & SIZE

Especially in America, Christians are caught in **the twentieth century syndrome of size**. Size will show success. If I am consecrated, there will necessarily be large quantities of people, dollars, etc. **This is not so ... Minister** is not a title of power but a designation of servant-hood ... Jesus commands Christians to seek constantly the lowest room [position or status]. Quietness and peace before God are **more important** than any influence a position may seem to give, for **we must stay in step with God to have the power of the Holy Spirit. If we deliberately and egotistically lay hold on leadership**, wanting the drums to beat and the trumpets to blow, then we are not qualified for Christian leadership.

p.8, The Lord's Work in the Lord's Way

Salvation encompasses all 3 aspects of our redemption: **justification, stage 2:** a once for all irrevocable removal of the guilt of my sin forever when I believed the Gospel in the past and received the Holy Spirit: **sanctification, stage 3:** the present degree of the moment-by-moment life of faith overcoming the power of sin in my life: and **glorification:** future deliverance from the presence of sin and eternal life with God ... **stage 4 .**

Justification requires humbling. To the extent that we do not humble ourselves, there will be no

power of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Serving God with humility and witnessing with tongues of fire in the Spirit. [Being filled by the Holy Spirit, stage 3] is not the same as the one-time experience of being indwelt by the Spirit at our spiritual rebirth in Christ. There are to be many fillings, stage 3. [The filling of the Spirit and] Tongues of fire are not to be had simply for the asking. Certain conditions must exist. They boil down to doing the Lord's work in the Lord's way. Herein do I exercise myself, to have always [maintain] a conscience void to offense (1) toward God, and (2) toward men.

We who have come to Christ are meant to know something of both His leading and His power [stage 3] ... The church consciously should be that which encourages its members in the true Christian life, in true spirituality ... Faith can be taught, but only by exhibition ... The Church's or Christian group's methods are as important as its message, which is to deal consciously with the reality of the supernatural ...

p.12, the Finished Work of Christ

If we don't know something of the [spiritual] reality of salvation in our present life ... the whole thing takes on an air of unreality. We cannot automatically begin operating on the basis of our own strength, goodness, or qualities of character. Just as faith was the instrument to our receiving justification, so also faith is to be the instrument of our present Christian living. There is really only one thing that can minimize Christ's saving work and that is our failing to lay hold of it by faith.

working out our own salvation

[discipline yourself to] continue [carefully] working out your salvation ... for it is God who is working in you [through the events and circumstances of your life] to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose ... a person is justified [by faith and works] ...

... his divine power has bestowed on us everything necessary for life and godliness ... he has bestowed on us his precious and most magnificent promises, so that by means of [faith in] what was promised, you may become partakers of the divine nature.

Endure your suffering as discipline [in order to become trained]; God has been treating you as His children ... he disciplines us for our benefit, that we may share his holiness.

The fruit of the flesh generated through discipline and effort [stages 1 & 2] can mimic the fruit of the Spirit. Good character development can approximate walking in the Spirit by giving us a semblance of true spirituality. But for us to be alive to God supernaturally, it must be energized by FAITH.

Ceremonies (such as baptism) **depict or signify realities.** God's Kingdom is spiritual in nature. It can only be entered through spiritual regeneration (rebirth, *God ... made His light to shine in our hearts ...*) which cannot be accomplished by a ceremony or pageantry. The New Testament emphasizes God's Word and the culmination of the OT imagery in the coming of Christ.

In the constant attitude of thanksgiving for our continual cleansing from sin, we can truly begin to experience the moment-by-moment reality of our faith [stage 3]. Our faith is not a theoretical thing. It is faith amid temptation ... tribulation ... the rough-and-tumble of life.

p.14, Substantial Healing in the Church

There is an absolute rule, and that is that if our example does not teach faith, it is destructive. The church or other Christian group that does not function as a unit in faith can never be a school of

*faith. ... The Church's or Christian group's **methods** are as important as its message. It is to deal consciously with the reality of the supernatural. Anything that exhibits unfaith is a mistake. Throughout Church history, one is aware that the danger always comes at a time of emergency. An emergency arises which causes us to cut off the exhibition of faith, and discount the possibility that God is guiding through financial matters.*

p.15, Schaeffer's Spiritual Crisis

*In 1951 and 1952 I faced a spiritual crisis in my own life. I had become a Christian from **agnosticism** many years before ... gradually over the years of ministry, the problem of reality came to me. This had two parts: **1st** it seemed that among many of those who held the orthodox position one saw little reality in the things that the Bible so clearly said should be the result of Christianity. **2nd** incrementally it grew on me that my own reality was less than it had been in the early days after I had become a Christian.*

As I rethought my reasons for being a Christian I saw again that they were totally sufficient to know that the infinite-personal God does exist and that Christianity is true. I searched through what the Bible said concerning reality as a Christian. Bit by bit I saw that the problem was that with all the teaching I had received after I was a Christian, I had heard little of what the Bible says about the meaning of the finished work of Christ for our present lives. Gradually the sun came out and the song came ... in that time of joy and song I found poetry beginning to flow again – poetry of certainty, an affirmation of life, thanksgiving, and praise ... it was out of these struggles that the reality came.