

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course
An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries
5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

GOD IS A SPIRIT
Lesson 2 Part 2 of 2
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3. The word "appeared" is often used in scripture to describe God, angels, or Jesus after His resurrection, being seen by men. Of course, these events were either manifestations or visions, but where the word "appear" is used there is no definite distinction made as to whether it was a manifestation or a vision.

In Exodus 19 the Bible says the people SAW the God of Israel on Mount Sinai. God appeared there. Now whether God worked a miracle on the eyesight or some other such thing is not stated particularly, but we know that one of the two had to be the case. Also, there was an appearance in Matthew 17:1-3. Look at this beautiful passage of scripture: *And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. (KJV)*

Jesus was TRANSFIGURED, that is, changed from one figure to another. The invisible, veiled glory of God was shining through the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. God allowed the light of His majesty to shine forth. We are not told whether this was a vision or a manifestation, but God showed Himself in His glory to mortal man. You will come across many places in your Bible where God APPEARED. Whether it was a vision or a manifestation is not always stated, but because God is a Spirit it will always be one of those two phenomena.

4. Not only has God the Son appeared to men, but the Holy Spirit has also appeared. Remember that we have noted that there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one. God, the Holy Spirit, has also appeared; that is, He has taken on some sort of physical manifestation that the invisible God might be observed by mortal man.

In Luke 3:21-22a, we read; *Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened, And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him.*

John the Baptist said (John 1:30-33) that he saw God the Holy Spirit. Did he actually see the Lord? Well, yes, he did. But he saw God the Holy Spirit as He was MANIFEST in a body of flesh. In this case it was not human

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flesh, but that of something that descended in a bodily shape like a dove. It was not a dove it was the Holy Ghost in a bodily shape. Let us consider a couple of practical things. First, Jesus not only said that God is a Spirit, but He went on to declare that men **MUST worship Him**. I think many times we fail to emphasize that fact. We are not to worship knowledge about Him, nor people who are serving Him, nor even glorious works wrought by Him. Rather, they **that worship him MUST worship HIM**.

God is to be worshipped. *God is a Spirit and they that worship him MUST worship him in SPIRIT and in TRUTH.*

Please consider something. You may have worshipped God, perhaps with your hands, perhaps on your knees, perhaps in the singing of a song, perhaps in speaking with your lips, and perhaps you have even said good things and right things about God. But you were made in the image of God. You are a body (that is what is physical and material about you), you are a soul (that's the real you living on the inside of your body), and you are also a spirit being. The Bible says we are made up **of spirit and soul and body** (1 Thessalonians 5:23).

Here is the question: have you ever really worshipped God in your spirit, or have you just been a religious person saying words and performing deeds and actions that you thought might gain you a place in heaven?

We pray to an unseen God. We worship an unseen God. We do not need images to aid us. We do not need candles or statues or plaques or pictures or beads or holy water or ornaments or crosses as "aids to worship."

My friend, tell me the truth, is your worship really the worship of God? Is it spiritual worship, or have you invented all other sorts of things and made them a part of your worship? God said through His Son that we must worship Him in spirit, not with things made by our hands, not with material objects. We must worship Him in spirit if our worship is to be in truth.

Secondly, we believe without seeing. We are not like doubting Thomas. We believe God's written word. We believe God's great cloud of witnesses. The Bible says in John 20:24-28, *But Thomas, one of the twelve, called **Didymus**, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe. And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. Then **saith** he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my*

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side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. Thomas said My Lord and my God.

There isn't any question about who Jesus Christ was and is and always will be.

Then, in verse 29, Jesus said, *Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.*

Do you believe? Will you believe without seeing? The Bible says in Hebrews 11:6; *But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that **cometh** to God must believe that he is, and that he is a **rewarder** of them that diligently seek him.*

In Hebrews 11:1, the Bible says; *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things NOT seen.*

Remember, God is a Spirit, He is unseen, unless He chooses to be manifest in the flesh. In the person of His Son He made Himself visible for 33 1/2 years. Then, after dying for the sins of the whole world and rising from the dead, He ascended into heaven. Yes, He is coming again. But in the meantime you cannot see Jesus Christ. You cannot visibly witness Him dying on the cross.

You cannot be an eyewitness to His rising from the dead. You do not see Him seated at the right hand of God the Father. You cannot watch His blood washing your sins away. You will not see the Holy Spirit coming in and giving you a new birth. All of these things are invisible. They must be taken as matters of faith. Without such faith God cannot be pleased and you cannot enter heaven. Please don't go to hell following images and idols. Please don't be so foolish as to trust some man-made god that you can see.

God said He is a Spirit. He declared Himself to be invisible. If you ever hope to spend eternity in the wonderful heaven He has prepared, you will have to please Him. He has said that what pleases Him is for one to believe on Him, to trust Him, to take Him at His word. Do you believe God is all He claims to be? Do you believe the Lord Jesus Christ was God manifest in the flesh, who came to die for your sin? Do you believe God manifest in the flesh rose from the dead? Do you believe that God lives right now, waiting to hear your prayer, your sincere prayer of repentance and sorrow for sin, your sincere acknowledgment that the only way you will ever get to heaven is for that unseen and invisible God to save you and cleanse you by the blood of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ? That is the way of salvation.

The God of the Bible is an unseen Spirit. You must believe by faith that He is; you must come to Him to receive His rich rewards. God has everlasting life, joy and blessing here and now, heaven waiting, and all the good things that He made and can give to man if you will believe. That is what God wants. He is a Spirit, a living personality, and He longs that you enjoy fellowship with Him for all eternity.

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My friend, don't miss heaven following the things you can see with your eyes. Come to the unseen and invisible God. Bow your knees before Him and talk to Him as you would any other person. Tell Him that you are a sinner that needs His salvation, that you are simply a mortal, that you want to trust your soul to and live your life in the worship of this God, this true, living, only real, eternal God, who was manifest in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

He will save you by His grace.

Notes

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Lesson 2 Part 2 of 2

Name _____

1. What must you do to become saved? Explain from how it was explained in this Lesson.
2. Men ***MUST worship Him***, why is GOD so emphatic about this command?
3. Every individual is made up of three parts, what are they?
4. Many religions today have pictures of doves depicting their form of godliness, Why is this just a gross error in understanding what the scriptures say?
5. In scripture the word "appeared" is often used for what?
6. What is the definition of faith? According to the scriptures.
7. Who is more blessed in relation to faith?
8. What happened in Exodus 19?
9. What is meant by Transfigured?
10. GOD says he will reward a certain group of people, who are they?
11. What ways do people worship God?

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12. Who is a living personality? Why is that so important to you and I?
13. When people report that they have seen God in a window pane or a cloud or the reverse negative of a photograph, why are these sightings unscriptural?
14. Who was seen with Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration?
15. Explain why those two were selected to be seen by Peter, James and John? (extra credit)

True/False

- When praying it is better to use candles, pictures of Jesus and statues to put you in the right mood to worship?
- After salvation, you must do good works to keep your salvation secure?
- If you expose about another religion for their false doctrine, you have committed the unpardonable sin?
- GOD is a Spirit?



Scripture Memorization: Hebrews 11:6; Luke 3:21-22;
 Hebrews 11:1 Write these verses out on the back page of this paper.(must be in KJV)

any questions?