

THE HOLY SPIRIT THAT JESUS BREATHED OUT AND THE ENEMY'S COUNTERFEIT

Goran Šušljic



- “And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the holy Ghost.” {John 20:22}
- “...‘My Father, give us Thy Spirit.’ **Then Jesus would breathe upon them the holy Ghost.** In that breath was light, power, and much love, joy, and peace.” {Ellen White: Early Writings, p. 55.1}
- “Before the disciples could fulfill their official duties in connection with the church, **Christ breathed His Spirit upon them.**” {Ellen White: Desire of Ages, p. 805.2}
- “...and believing that Christ not only gave himself for but to His disciples. The record declares, ‘He breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the holy Ghost.’ Jesus is waiting to breathe upon all His disciples, and give them the inspiration of His sanctifying spirit... Their will must be submitted to His will, they must act with **His** spirit, that it may be no more they that live, but **Christ that liveth in them.** **Jesus is seeking to impress upon them the thought that in giving His holy Spirit...**” {Ellen White: Signs of the Times, October 3, 1892, par. 3, 4}

Remark: “For His disciples” means His sacrifice for them, and “to His disciples” means that as the holy Spirit, Jesus remains available to them.

- “And when He had said this, He **breathed** on them, and saith unto them, **Receive ye the holy Ghost**: Whosoever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whosoever sins ye retain, they are retained.’ **The holy Spirit was not yet fully manifested; for Christ had not yet been glorified. The more abundant impartation of the Spirit did not take place till after Christ’s ascension.** Not until this (His Spirit) was received could the disciples fulfill the commission to preach the gospel to the world. **But the Spirit was now given for a special purpose. Before the disciples could fulfill their official duties in connection with the church, Christ breathed His Spirit upon them.** He was committing to them a most sacred trust, and He desired to impress them with the fact that without the holy Spirit this work could not be accomplished.” {Ellen White: Desire of Ages, p. 805.2}

What comes out of someone’s mouth, what proceeds from that being? Is it another being that comes out? God breathed into Adam’s nostrils the breath of life. Why? Because that life proceeds from the Creator and that breath was not another being! That of course doesn’t mean that the holy Spirit is an unconscious power like the power of life! We have read that this was a limited outpouring of Jesus’ holy Spirit, which later came in its fullness, when Jesus got His Divine nature back.

- “I turned to look at the **company who were still bowed before the throne**; they did **not know that Jesus had left it. Satan appeared to be by the throne**, trying to carry on the work of God. I saw them look up to the throne, and pray, ‘**Father, give us Thy Spirit.**’ **Satan would then breathe upon them an unholy influence**; in it there was light and much power, but no sweet love, joy, and peace. Satan’s object was to keep them deceived and to draw back and deceive God’s children.” {Ellen White, Early Writings, p. 56.1}

Here we see the unholy influence of the false theology of the Trinity, and that Satan himself breathed on them a counterfeit holy Spirit which glorifies him alone. A cunning and dazzling seduction, it contains an imitation of revival and successful but loveless evangelisation. Therefore it’s no wonder that many look in full fury and hatred upon those who don’t believe in their understanding of the Bible and the Trinity, citing that the church must be “defended” and deny its access to those who are spreading “apostasy”.

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