WHO KNOCKS ON THE DOOR OF OUR HEARTS AND SPEAKS TO THE 7 CHURCHES AS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

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- "Who but **Jesus Christ, by His Spirit and divine power**, **guided the pens** of the sacred historians that to the world might be presented the precious record of the sayings and works of Jesus Christ?" {Ellen White: Manuscript Releases, Vol. 2, p. 14.4, 1892}
- "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in **My throne**, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my **Father in His throne**. He that hath an ear, let Him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." {Revelation 3:21-22}

Who gives messages to the 7 churches and Who personally speaks to them?

- "And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man...I am he that liveth, and was dead... Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter; The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches. Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith He that holdeth the seven stars in His right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;" {Revelation 1:12-13,18-20; 2:1}

Did Jesus Himself speak to the 7 churches? According to Revelation, it's totally clear that He did! Revelation itself is entitled the Revelation of Jesus Christ!

Other verses from the same book expand the truth that the holy Spirit spoke to the 7 churches, clearly confirming that Jesus is at the same the holy Spirit:

- "But unto you I say...He that hath an ear, let him hear what the <u>Spirit</u> saith unto the churches." {Revelation 2:24,29}

All of these clear words help us to understand that Jesus Himself speaks as the holy Spirit and that the following words in the Bible described what Jesus Himself said by His Spirit.

In the Bible, Jesus is the One Who calls us, i.e. commissions us to the work.

Jesus is that holy Spirit who called the apostles to separate Barnabas and Saul; and Christ is the One Who speaks to the churches when the holy Spirit speaks!

- "As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the **holy Ghost said**, **separate me Barnabas and Saul** for the work whereunto I have called them." {Acts 13:2}
- "Behold, I (Jesus) come quickly..." {Revelation 3:11}
- "Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to." {Acts 16:6-7, NIV}

The last words of the above verse "but the Spirit suffered them not," in the majority of more precise Bible translations in the world that are closer to the original, like e.g. in the quoted NIV "but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to," because the holy Spirit is not an autonomous being, but rather the Spirit of Jesus, i.e. that the holy Spirit is Jesus Himself, consciously present in another form.

- "Behold, I stand at the **door** (of our hearts), and **knock**: if any man hear my voice (the voice of Jesus), and **open the door**, I will come IN to him (in us as the holy Spirit), and will sup with him, and he with Me." {Revelation 3:20}
- "But the Comforter, which is the holy Ghost, Whom the Father will send in My name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." {John 14:26}
- "The Lord God of heaven is our Leader. He is a leader Whom we can safely follow; for He never makes a mistake. Let us honor God and His Son Jesus Christ, through Whom He communicates with the world." {Ellen White: S.D.A. Bible Commentary Vol. 1, p. 1117.9, 1903}
- "I laid down my pen and was in a waiting attitude to see what the **Spirit** would say unto me... but a **heavenly Watcher seemed close beside me**. I felt that I was in the **presence of Jesus**... A line of action was laid out before me as if the unseen presence were speaking with me." {Ellen White: Manuscript Releases, Vol. 11, p. 326, 1896}

Who is in our hearts? The holy Spirit. Who is He? Jesus Himself, who is knocking at the door of our hearts and comes into us. This knocking can only be in the present day, with the presence of the holy Spirit in us, and not at the time of Jesus second coming - why?

Because by then the time of grace would have expired. Today Jesus is in heaven, and that's why this knocking can only come from the omnipresent holy Spirit because He is knocking simultaneously at the doors of every heart in the whole world!

And since Jesus has very clearly said that He is the One Who knocks, this is the deepest possible confirmation that His holy Spirit is personally Himself, divested of the personality of humanity, of His heavenly body.

- "We want the **holy Spirit, which IS Jesus Christ**." {Ellen White: Letter 66, April 10, 1894 par. 18}
- "The holy Spirit is Himself divested of the personality of humanity and independent thereof. He (Jesus Himself) would represent Himself as present in all places by His holy Spirit, as the Omnipresent." {Ellen White: Manuscript Releases, Vol. 14 [Nos. 1081-1135], p. 23, 1883}

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