

## The NT is all about Jesus and His New Covenantal Revelation!

This caption should perhaps be clearer had I worded it the following way: The New Testament is all about the Son of God revealed in the flesh. Rev. 1.1-2 clearly depicts this revelation to us: "The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who testifies to everything he saw - that is the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ." (Quotation from Thompson's Chain Ref. Bible, NIV, 1990). The essence of what is conveyed here by the author of the Book of Revelations is dealt with in this video but I would like to draw the attention to the following:

Not all translations change, "He made it known...." to, "Jesus made it known..." applying so-called stylistic/explanatory liberty in translation. The quoted translation remains true to the original. However, it seems that the reader can apply the referent to either God the Father or Jesus which may lead to misunderstanding and especially in comparison with other translations. Therefore the discussion in this video, making it plain why it is necessary to link "He made it known..." to God and not to Jesus, the Son. Knowing that God sent His messenger (angel, angelos (Gk) = messenger) to the apostle John, giving him the full revelation (the Apocalypse), ties neatly with Rev. 22.16: "I, Jesus, have sent my angel (here it is John who is also depicted as messenger (angel just as the leadership of the seven churches were also addressed) to give you this testimony for the churches...." Should we correlate this text with Rev. 1.1, the latter text corresponds well with the former. Should we, however, need greater clarity concerning this thorny issue, we can just go to Rev. 22.8-9: "I, John (Jesus' messenger to the churches), am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I had heard and seen them (after I, in other words, had received the full revelation - the complete Apocalypse), I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me (Jesus who was sent by God the Father to convey the revelation to John). But he said (that angelic messenger who passed the revelation on to John, namely Jesus): Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers the prophets and of all who keep the words of this book. Worship God (the Father)!" Jesus clearly then projected Himself as "brother" of the believers (our elder brother) and He did so to John just as He had done it also to Paul (Heb. 2.17, also with 1 Cor. 15.28). Should we then be able to grasp this secret of the ages past (Christ is the secret of the ages past, i.e. according to Paul's doctrine) we will be able to understand why Jesus is also the same yesterday, today and forevermore (Heb. 13.8). The pre-existent Son (Jesus the Christ) then came into the world to propagate true (real) authentic worship. We therefore worship God the Father always in and through the Son (1 Tim. 2.5).

Note further that God the Father GAVE (bestowed) ALL authority in heaven and on earth upon Jesus' shoulders (Isa 9.6), i.e. the Son (Mat. 28.18). Jesus' divine status of glory was then given Him after His resurrection (Rom. 1.4).

God (the Father) is Spirit (a Spirit being) whom no one is able to see and live (Jn 1.18; Jn 4.24; 1 Jn. 4.12). Wherever He acts and reacts, His awesome Presence was/is manifested in powerful deeds, performance, etcetera. God the Father's Spirit always links with Jesus the Son who had received the Holy Spirit from the Father and who then, in return, poured it out in the Upper Room upon the blood-washed (Acts 2.33). The Spirit received this way was therefore God's Spirit operating in and through the Son as God's Power (Acts 1.8) or God's Presence manifestation and it was sent in the Name of Jesus, Son of God (Jn 15.26; Jn 14.14; Jn 14.26). The Holy Spirit is Jesus' Spirit (Paul) meaning that wherever the Spirit of God manifested within the apostolic churches, there the Father was present, and is still to this day, and He was/is then always glorified in and through the Son. The Spirit of God is also called the Spirit of the Holy (the Holy One) who is Jesus (Mr 1.24). Without the sacrificial blood of Jesus shed on Calvary, there can be no manifestation of the Spirit of God, also no baptism with the Holy Spirit. Therefore the Holy Spirit can never be separated from God the Father and His Son.

Mary is regarded in catholic tradition as the Tabernacle of the Holy Spirit and we should be able to see the connection between the Spirit and the Mother (derived from ancient pagan cults).

Apology: There was a slip of the tongue concerning Jesus and the authority He had received from God the Father (kindly note, therefore not vice versa). I also referred to the seven "vials" but it is actually the seven seals, clearly containing God's judgements that may be depicted as plagues that were poured out upon the

inhabitants of the earth, not mentioning then specifically vials/containers but may be God's judgments preserved in one or other way for the outpouring of God's wrath periodically. Just an idea then. What is also noteworthy is Rev. 22.16: "I (Jesus) am the Root and the Offspring of David and the bright Morning Star". Isa. 11 concerning the Branch is then indeed applicable to Jesus/Yeshua our Precious Lord and Saviour, God's one and only Son.

Then I'd like to briefly add the following in reference to masculinity and virginity : The mysteries held that the soul acquired masculinity through the working of the spirit (It is said that Hippolytus propagated this idea), i.e. when the celibate was practised by women and seemingly then in accordance with their religious ideals. Clearly a cultic stance. Such weird approach to celibacy seemingly stemmed from a chauvinistic approach and where male predominance dictated the religious system and rules. However, it seems that this goes beyond mere "male" and "female" privileges and that Gnostic thought - connecting masculinity with the Spirit - is evident and Mary's type of "eternal virginity", for example and regardless her children fathered by Joseph after the birth of Jesus/Yeshua,, then indeed goes deeper than what may be ascribed to "ordinary" virginity and when choices, i.e. to marry or not, are exercised!

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