



[Understanding the Christ](#)

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## **Episode 37 - Seeing the Invisible: Ascending from the East**

Videocast Website: [www.scottdtgreiv.podbean.com](http://www.scottdtgreiv.podbean.com)

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Host Scott Stanley of DTG Ministries leads this videocast on understanding Christ and the spiritual pathway to knowing God. Through close reading of key scriptures — including John 1:18, John 17:3, Revelation 7, 1 Corinthians 2, Isaiah 54–65, Revelation 21, Galatians 4, Jeremiah 31, John 7, and Acts 2 — Scott explains why God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit are unseen and how the Bible serves as the one physical means God has given us to know Him.

Scott emphasizes the difference between merely believing in God and truly knowing God, which he identifies as eternal life. He walks listeners through the idea of "ascending from the east" — moving away from personal, earthly interpretations toward a higher, spiritual understanding of Scripture. He warns against accepting secondhand teachings without verse-based proof and encourages viewers to seek God's understanding in the text itself.

The episode explores Revelation 7's sealing of the 144,000 as God's confirmation of redeemed truth (not a literal sealing of people), and connects New Jerusalem and the bride imagery (Revelation 21) to the Holy Spirit as the tabernacle that contains God's understanding. Scott draws on Galatians and Isaiah to show how the Holy Spirit

(Jerusalem above) brings a new heaven and new earth — a renewed inner perception that births God's children and extends God's truth to the nations.

Key theological points include why the Holy Spirit was given after Christ's glorification, how the cross symbolizes humanity's condition and God's redemptive spirit, and why possessing the Spirit is necessary to "know" God. Practical outcomes are underscored: the Spirit transforms believers by overcoming iniquity and producing compassion, empathy, and love, which demonstrate whether one truly possesses God's Spirit.

Listeners will gain guidance on how to read the Bible responsibly — seeking scriptural corroboration, avoiding personal or ecclesial misinterpretations, and patiently waiting for God's revelation. Scott's message invites viewers to pursue a deeper, spiritually grounded relationship with God through Scripture and the indwelling Spirit.

Modified Transcript:

Scriptures are transcribed directly with notations. Refer to KJV for verbatim wording.

Hi, I'm Scott Stanley, DTG Ministries, videocast concerning understanding the Christ. I think what I want to share with you today is really very basic, but it starts getting deep. It starts getting deep as we just follow through the verses I want to share with you. But again, I think this is a basic understanding that all of us need to have.

I want to begin by reading in the Gospel of John, chapter 1, verse 18.

Jhn 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he has declared him.

So, we have a God that is referred to as the invisible God. As it is stated here, John wrote, "*No man has seen God at any time.*" When I got to thinking about that, you don't see Jesus either. Now, I know Jesus has been here and died on the cross, was raised from the dead, all of those things. But you don't see him like 2,000 years ago, holding meetings and feeding 5,000, and healing the blind... You don't see him literally here. And no man has seen God at any time.

What makes this interesting to me is what Jesus said about eternal life in the Gospel of John. Let's look at John 17, verse 3.

Jhn 17:3 This is life eternal, that they might know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

Now, isn't it interesting that eternal life is knowing God, but he's invisible, and no one's seen him at any time. *"This is life eternal that they might know you the only true God and Jesus."* Well, Jesus again, we can't see him anymore either, not literally, so we've got to know God. See that verse doesn't say, "This is life eternal that you believe in God." It doesn't say that. *This is life eternal, that you may know God.* Knowing God is different than just believing in God.

So God is invisible. We haven't seen, literally seen Christ for 2,000 years. And what about the Holy Spirit? Well, you can't see that either. You can see the effect of the wind, but you can't see the wind. So here we have the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit, and you can't see any one of them, literally. So what can we see? What has God left us that we can see it and hold it and feel it? The Bible. It's the Bible that God has given us, the Holy Scriptures.

Again, when you consider that nobody has seen God at any time, we haven't seen Jesus, you can't see the Holy Spirit. So the Bible is the one thing we have that will help us to know God. And remember, *knowing God is life eternal, to know him and know Jesus.* Well, as I was thinking this through, I thought. "Wow, that really elevates the Bible in my heart, in my mind." It's like the Bible, that's the only literal physical thing we have that will help us know God unto eternal life.

But there is a catch to that. You see, all of my life, people have been telling me things about God. I was raised a Baptist. I gave my heart to the Lord forty years ago, and up until that time, even after that time, people were telling me things about God. I was getting it from every angle, just like you. I mean, come on. There are churches on every corner. There used to be television shows and broadcasts of these preachers and evangelists, books coming out, you know, rapture things, heaven and hell, and all of this. I heard it most of my life.

Everybody was using the only tool God has left us, the Bible. But I was hearing a variety of things, and they all seemed to contradict one another. There were just contradictions left and right. When I gave my heart to the Lord on December 1, 1979, I started reading the Bible for myself. I've said before, up until that time, the only thing I knew about God was what I had been told.

So again, I was told a lot of contradictory things. What I want to share with you today is very important concerning the Bible. If we are going to read the Bible, if we are going to base what we understand on the Bible, if this is what we're going to do, there is something God has given us that will help us interpret it more accurately.

This is found in Revelation chapter 7. In Revelation 7, we have an angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God

Rev 7:2 ... He is ascending from the east, and he has the seal of God. He cries with a loud voice to the four messengers, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea.

Now, this is not an explanation of this prophecy. What happens when you read this is that this angel is able to seal the 144,000 (Rev 7:4). Now, again, I was told through my Christian life that the 144,000 are 144,000 Jews who will be converted at the end of the world. That is not true. This angel that we're seeing in Revelation 7 is sealing the 144,000. Angels do not seal men. Angels seal the truth. To "seal" just means you "confirm" it. God will confirm people, whether they're right or wrong or true or false. God seals the church (Eph 4:30; 2Tm 2:19). This angel is sealing the 144,000.

The 144,000 represent the truths that have been redeemed in our thinking. It's all of the things that we've been told about God that were not true, and it's being corrected. This angel is seen correcting it and sealing the 144,000. Now, here's the point I want to make. To seal. them, to seal the truth, determine what the truth is, he is ascending from the east. That's a symbol. If you're ascending, you're going higher. The earth represents self. The heavens represent God. To ascend... In other words, you're going higher in your understanding, higher in your thinking to determine what the truth is.

Why would you have to do that? Because none of the people who have been teaching us were ascending from the earth. They were teaching you their understanding of the

Bible. That's the earth. We want God's understanding of the Bible. So in order for this to be corrected in our thinking, somebody is going to have to ascend into the heavens, to seal or determine the truth. But there's another part to it. He is ascending from the east. Two different things. To ascend is to go higher. To go away from the east - east is always self, it represents self ... to ascend from the east. That means you enter into a spiritual, a higher understanding of the Bible, not earthly, but spiritual... and you're ascending from the east.

You can't put your own interpretation to it, even though you're trying to make it spiritual - you're seeing that this stuff is spiritual. If you put your own interpretation to it, that's still a mistake. If I am going to take the Bible and not put my interpretation to it, I'm going to have to have a verse to explain what it is I'm believing. If you're just believing something on your own, you're not ascending from the east. You may be ascending, but you're putting yourself into it.

Think about it. In other words, the Bible is the one literal physical thing. We can hold it and touch it. We can read it. This will help you have life eternal. And what is that? *That you might know the only true God, and Jesus*. But we can't see either one of them... and again, you can't see the Holy Spirit. You see the book. And we can read the book. The book has tremendous importance to us in our lives.

So if you're going to go to church every week and sit down and let somebody read the book to you and put their own interpretation to it, your salvation is going nowhere. You need to read the book ascending into God's understanding, away from the east, away from your own understanding. And God's understanding is spiritual.

Now, I have made videos covering the spiritual meanings of the Bible, so I'm not going to get into all of that. We're going to cover some things. But again, the importance of this Bible, you can't weigh that. I mean, it is just immensely important to us. So we're not very smart if we're letting somebody else tell us what it means, and putting their own interpretation to it. If somebody wants to tell you what it means, they need to show you a verse, and they need to be ascending from the east.

Once you know what that means, you can pretty well determine, "Hey, there's nothing spiritual in what they're saying, and they're just putting their own meanings to it. They're

not ascending from the east." This is tried and true. We can read the Bible, the heavenly understanding, and not put our own interpretation to it because the Bible will explain it.

So, now what do we do about knowing God? How in the world am I going to know God using the Bible? I want to share something with you out of 1 Corinthians 2, starting at verse 9.

1Co 2:9 As it is written (in the Old Testament, Isaiah 64), as it is written, Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God has prepared for them that love him.

1Co 2:10 But God has revealed them unto us through his Spirit: for the Spirit searches all things, yea, the deep things of God.

1Co 2:11 What man knows the things of a man, except the spirit of a man which is in him? Well, even so, the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

1Co 2:12 Now, we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God, that we might know the things which are freely given to us of God.

How am I going to know God? If I'm going to know God, I've got to possess his Spirit. Concerning a man, *who knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him?* Same thing with God. This is life eternal, that you know God, but you can't see him. You can't see Jesus. You have a book, and the book is going to reveal the Spirit of God. The Spirit of God is interesting because (I want to share a couple of verses with you concerning the Spirit of God) ... God has given us everything in similitudes, in likenesses. So let me show you this one. Isaiah 65, starting at verse 17.

Isa 65:17 For, behold, I create a new heaven and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.

Isa 65:18 But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.

So here we have a verse about a new heaven and a new earth, and it only makes sense when we realize in Zechariah 12 that *God stretches forth the heavens; he lays the foundation of the earth, and creates the spirit of man within him* (Zec 12:1-2). So, the heavens and the earth are between our ears. The heavens represent the way God understands. The earth represents our own understanding (Isa 55:8-10). That is our spirit.

So here he says, *"I'm going to give you a new heaven and a new earth."* There's a new way of perceiving God's understanding. There's a new way to see yourself. *I'm creating Jerusalem. This is New Jerusalem.* Let's turn over to Revelation chapter 21, verse 1.

Rev 21:1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. (We just read that he creates a new heaven and a new earth.)

Rev 21:2 I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Rev 21:3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them and be their God.

So here we see New Jerusalem coming down as a bride adorned for her husband. Who's the husband when we read this? Let's go back. We're in Revelation 21. Let's go back to it. Verse 9.

Rev 21:9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and he talked with me, and he said, Come here, I'll show you the bride, the Lamb's wife.

Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and he showed me that great city, holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.

The bride is Jerusalem, New Jerusalem. The bride is the Lamb's wife. Now we have this symbol, that this spirit, this Holy Spirit, it's the tabernacle of God... see, it contains God. The tabernacle of God is the Lamb's wife. Don't let this be confusing. How did we even get here? That the Bible is what God has given us to help us understand and possess eternal life. Eternal life is to know the Father.

If I'm going to know the Father, I've got to have his Spirit. Well, God... in the book, because he's given us the book, he is helping us understand his Spirit. In order for you to have it, you've got to have a new heaven and a new earth, a new way of perceiving God, a new way of seeing yourself. He calls this New Jerusalem. New Jerusalem is the

bride of Christ. I was always told the bride's the church. Well, in a way it is. But not here. Jerusalem is the Holy Spirit, and it's the bride of Christ.

I want to show you something else about it. Let's look at Galatians chapter 4. Galatians chapter 4, I want to start reading at verse 21, and just bear with me as we read this, because this is going to connect for you.

Gal 4:21 Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do you not hear the law?

Gal 4:22 It's written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a free woman (who was Sarah).

Gal 4:23 But he who is of the bondwoman was born after the flesh (Hagar and Ishmael); but he that is of the freewoman was by promise (Isaac).

Gal 4:24 Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; one from mount Sinai, which genders to bondage, that's Hagar.

Gal 4:25 For this Hagar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answers to Jerusalem which now is (See, old Jerusalem), it's in bondage with her children.

Gal 4:26 But Jerusalem which is above (which was a picture of Sarah), Jerusalem, which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.

Now notice how he proves this. Here he's calling Jerusalem our mother.

Gal 4:27 For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, you that travailest not: for the desolate has more children than she which has a husband.

He's literally quoting this out of Isaiah chapter 54, verse 1. So why don't we go there? Let's get the picture. He has given us an allegory. Jerusalem above, which God creates when he gives you a new heaven and new earth... *Jerusalem above is the mother of us all*. I want you to see how this is, how this works- Isaiah 54. Now, again, we just read this verse in Galatians 4. Let's read it here, Isaiah 54:1. Remember, Sarah and Hagar. Just keep them in mind because that's the allegory.

Isa 54:1 Sing, O barren, you that did not bear (let's just look at Sarah for a minute); break forth into singing, and cry aloud, you that did not travail with child: for more are the children of the one who's desolate (Sarah) than the children of the married wife, saith the LORD.

Well, now hold it. Hagar wasn't the married wife. But Paul was using that as an allegory. Who is the married wife? Who is the married wife who had the children and Sarah as a picture, who's desolate, but she's going to have even more children? Well, Paul is comparing this to new and old Jerusalem. Let's hold our place here and look at Jeremiah. Jeremiah 31, when God makes the new covenant, let me just start reading it. verse 31.

Jer 31:31 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and the house of Judah:

Jer 31:32 Not according to the covenant I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they broke, although I was a husband to them, saith the LORD.

Stop. When I look at old and new Jerusalem, old Jerusalem is more a picture of the married wife, because that was the Jews. And the married wife, the Jews, there were all of these people believing those things, coming into the first covenant, the law. But the true meaning of God and what it means to serve him is found in the Holy Spirit, which they did not have. So we have a wife, if I look again at Isaiah 54:1, speaking of the Holy Spirit, the true meaning of God.

Isa 54:1 Sing, O barren, you that did not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, you that did not travail with child (yet): for more are the children of the desolate (which is the Holy Spirit, until she brings forth her children), than the children of the married wife, (which you see in Jeremiah 31:32).

Not to be confusing, but New Jerusalem- because people did not possess the Spirit... How do I know that? Because let's just look at the Gospel of John, where Jesus says,

Jhn 7:38 He that believes on me, as the scripture has said, out of his belly will flow rivers of living water.

Jhn 7:39 But this spoke he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Spirit was not yet given; because Jesus was not yet glorified.

So until Jesus Christ died on that cross, the Holy Spirit was not yet given. Therefore, the Holy Spirit (the children of that spirit) was desolate. It hadn't prevailed with child yet, like it does today. In that time, the Holy Spirit was not yet given. So what you're reading in Isaiah 54:1 is a prophecy of the coming of the Holy Spirit, and that is going to bring forth more children to God than the old Jerusalem did. It's really simple. But in seeing this, I want to continue reading this in Isaiah 54. Let's look at verse 2, he says,

Isa 54:2 Enlarge the place of your tent (speaking of New Jerusalem), let them stretch forth the curtains of your habitation: spare not, lengthen your cords, and strengthen your stakes;

Isa 54:3 For you shall break forth on the right hand and on the left; and your seed shall inherit the nations (the Holy Spirit's going to go to the nations), and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.

Isa 54:4 Fear not; for you shall not be ashamed: neither be thou confounded; for you shall not be put to shame: for you shall forget the shame of your youth, and you'll not remember the reproach of your widowhood any more.

Isa 54:5 For your Maker is your husband; the LORD of hosts is his name; and your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called.

Now, this reveals a lot because Paul says, *"Jerusalem above is the mother of us all."* Isaiah tells us that *with a new heaven and a new earth, he's creating Jerusalem new in you.* And in Revelation 21, *Behold, I saw a new heaven and a new earth, and down comes Jerusalem. It's the tabernacle of God.* It's carrying the understanding of God. Well, Isaiah 54:5 says *your Maker is your husband. Your Redeemer is the Holy One.*

Think about this. We just read in Revelation that the bride of Christ is New Jerusalem. But in Isaiah 54:5, your Maker is your husband. Your Redeemer is Christ. Christ had to redeem this truth. What is this truth? What does it mean, *"Your Maker is your husband"*?

God the Father is the one who produces the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is his Spirit. Who knows the things about a man except his spirit? Well, who knows the things about God except the Spirit that dwells in Him? It is the Holy Spirit that gives you God's understanding. And this is what life eternal is, *that they might know you and Jesus.*

So think about it. What is the Holy Spirit? It wasn't given until Jesus was glorified. And then we see this in Acts 2:33. *"The Father gives the Spirit to the Son, and the Son pours this out, which you now see and hear,"* Peter said. Well, *your Maker is your husband.* God the Father is the Maker of the Holy Spirit. Again, that's a hard one to sell because people want to believe the Trinity. Well, if you want an anti-Trinitarian verse, it's right here, Isaiah 54:5: *Your Maker is your husband,* and we're speaking of Jerusalem above, which is the mother of us all (Gal 4:26) ... and Paul is the one who used Isaiah 54:1 to prove it.

This is a New Testament concept taken from the Old Testament, and we learn that God the Father made the Spirit. So let me tell you what the Spirit even is. What is it? How could it not be given until Jesus was glorified? Because the Holy Spirit is what Christ portrayed on the cross about humanity. He showed us the effect of our iniquity in symbols: Crown of thorns, stripes on the back, nakedness, and darkness. That is the result of iniquity.

Where does iniquity come from? Well, the author of iniquity is Satan, the serpent. We see this in Genesis 3. But now it makes sense, doesn't it? Jesus said he would be the serpent on the pole (Jhn 3:14). When he died on the cross, he was a similitude of the serpent. He is portraying iniquity. The serpent's the author of iniquity... And in that frame of mind, in that crown of thorns and all the symbols he had there on him that day, he tells God, *"I feel forsaken. I still thirst. But I'm going to quit trying to save myself and do all of this on my own. Into your hands I commit my spirit."* And he dies.

What you're seeing there is God's portrayal of humanity- the problem they have, and how to overcome it. And I've said before, if you can look at that cross and connect and say, *"You know, I have guilt, I have stripes..."* when all of these things are defined for us, because you see yourself, you also see God's love and grace toward you. What did you do that produced the guilt?

Well, God was long-suffering toward you. God turned the other cheek. God went the extra mile. God was very gracious toward you. And when you look at yourself on that cross, you can see the Spirit of God, his love and grace and mercy and long-suffering, his patience. Now you can see the wind. You can see the effect... and what happens?

Well, this guy on the cross, Jesus, is portraying us. As he portrays us in symbol, he is showing you a man full of guilt, full of anger, and bitterness. He can't forgive others. Those are the stripes on his back... his nakedness and his darkness toward God. But he prays that prayer. And what does God do? That's the guy God raises from the dead. So here you see the Spirit of God, the Spirit of God as portrayed on the cross.

Do you want to know God? Well, here's what you've got to do. You're only going to find this in the Bible. This is what God has given us. You've got to ascend from the east. You've got to search for God's understanding, not the universal church... Spiritual truth and a verse to prove it, so that you're not following your own thinking. Just because you think something is true, prove it. Let's see it. And don't go that direction, don't move if you can't prove it. Just wait until God reveals it to you.

Ascending from the east, learning the scripture, which is the only thing we have physically that connects us to God... And you will learn the truth of God's Spirit because this is the only way you're going to know God. By possessing his Spirit, the understanding of the cross, he will set you free from iniquity by teaching you to have compassion, sympathy, and empathy for people.

He sets you free from iniquity, giving you the tools to walk in love, to love your neighbor. When you do, you're loving God (Gal 5:14). The key is how you're going to read the Bible. Who are you going to put your trust in? People who are not ascending from the east, or someone who is? That's the question.

The spirit that you possess will be seen in the life you live. So that's another thing. You keep an eye and watch because when your pride is rising up, your anger and your bitterness, you see, you're not finding the Spirit of God. You're not living that.

There are a lot of ways, different things we can go from here. But it's my prayer that we take this step and grow in our understanding and receive the truth of God.