



Bicycles,
Roller Skates,
& Peanut Butter

Contemplative
Verse #10

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God's Holy Spirit

The idea of God's Spirit influencing us only occasionally is as absurd as the idea of an occasional God. It implies that God would sometimes be with us and sometimes not, which is contradictory. True divine influence must be constant. If we believe in occasional divine help, it falsely suggests that we have some goodness of our own that doesn't rely on God's Spirit. True goodness can only come from God's constant presence and assistance.

God's Holy Spirit poem

In the whispers of the dawn, in the hush of night, a presence constant, pure, and bright. Not a fleeting spark, nor a passing breeze, but an eternal light that never ceases to ease.

With every step, with every breath we take, a guiding hand, for our soul's sake. Not an occasional touch, nor a transient stay, but a boundless love that lights our way.

Through trials and joys, through all life's turns, a steady flame within us burns. No moments of absence, no gaps of time, just a sacred rhythm, a divine rhyme.

In the stillness of our hearts, in the depths of our mind, A Spirit unwavering, ever kind. Not a fleeting guest, nor a moment's grace, But a constant companion in this holy space.

So let us live in this truth so grand, with every heartbeat, by His hand. for in His presence, we find our rest, with an ever-present grace, we're truly blessed.

God's Holy Spirit allegory

In the peaceful village of Celestia, the villagers lived their lives under the benevolent guidance of the Spirit of Harmony. The Spirit was believed to be ever-present,

offering wisdom and comfort to those who sought it. The villagers thrived, knowing that the Spirit was with them in every moment.

However, there was a young man, Jonah who began to doubt this constant presence. He wondered if the Spirit was truly with them all the time or if it occasionally left them to their own devices. Jonah decided to seek answers and approached the village elder, an old and wise woman, Elara.

"Elder Elara," Jonah began, "I question whether the Spirit is always with us. Could it be that it only influences us occasionally, leaving us to fend for ourselves at times?"

Elara smiled gently and invited Jonah to join her for a walk through the village. As they strolled, she shared a story with him:

"Many years ago, this village faced a terrible drought. The crops withered, and the villagers were on the brink of despair. They prayed fervently for the Spirit's guidance, but the rain did not come. Some began to doubt, believing that the Spirit had abandoned them.

One day, a traveler, Liam arrived in Celestia. He was a wise man, known for his deep connection with the Spirit. The villagers, desperate for answers, asked Liam for help. He gathered them in the village square and spoke with conviction.

'The Spirit of Harmony is not an occasional visitor,' Liam said. 'It is a constant presence, guiding us in ways we may not always understand. The drought is not a sign of abandonment but an opportunity for growth and unity.'

Liam encouraged the villagers to work together, using their collective skills and resources to overcome the crisis. They dug new wells, conserved water, and shared what little they had. As they worked, they felt a renewed sense of purpose and connection, not only with each other but with the Spirit as well.

Eventually, the rain returned, and the village flourished once more. The villagers realized that the Spirit had been with them all along, not just in the moments of prosperity but in their struggles and efforts to persevere."

Elara paused and looked at Jonah. "Do you see, Jonah? The Spirit's presence is not occasional. It is always with us, even when we may not feel it directly. It guides us through every challenge and triumph, shaping our hearts and minds."

Jonah pondered Elara's words and began to understand. He realized that the Spirit's influence was not something that came and went but a constant force that worked through their lives in ways both seen and unseen.

With a newfound sense of faith, Jonah embraced the Spirit's presence and dedicated himself to helping his fellow villagers. He spread the message that the Spirit was always with them, guiding and supporting them in every aspect of their lives.

From that day forward, the village of Celestia thrived, its people united by the unwavering belief in the ever-present Spirit of Harmony.

An occasional influence of the Spirit is as absurd as an occasional God

Relying completely on Christ within us and on the continuous influence of the Holy Spirit for all our goodness and holiness is often considered excessive and misguided enthusiasm.

Suggests that turning to Christ as a light within us and expecting life only from His holy presence inside us can be seen as unrealistic and overly zealous.

In simpler terms:

It's absurd to dismiss the idea of constantly relying on God's immediate inspiration as enthusiasm. It states that if we believe "without Christ we can do nothing," then we must also believe in His continual guidance in everything we do. It challenges the idea that relying on God's Spirit is prideful, comparing it to someone admitting they have no wealth unless given by charity. The passage emphasizes that all true goodness and spiritual acts come from God's direct influence, not from our own abilities. This reliance on God is not pride but true humility.

Additionally, acknowledging our dependency on God's Spirit aligns us with the teachings of scripture, which repeatedly highlight the importance of divine guidance. This continuous reliance fosters a deeper spiritual connection, enabling us to transcend our inherent limitations and sinful nature. By embracing this divine influence, we open ourselves to the transformative power of God's love and grace, which purifies our intentions and actions.

Furthermore, this humility in recognizing our need for God's presence cultivates a more genuine and selfless faith. It shifts our focus from seeking personal glory to seeking God's glory, creating a more authentic and impactful spiritual life. In essence, true spiritual growth and goodness can only flourish when we fully surrender to the continual inspiration of the Holy Spirit, allowing it to guide and shape our every thought, word, and deed.

Divine Dependence

In life's vast expanse, we find our way, through whispers of the night and light of day. With every step, through joy and strife, we seek the Spirit to guide our life.

Not by our strength, or wisdom we claim, but through the Holy Spirit's flame. It lights our path, it guards our soul, making us pure, making us whole.

*When doubts assail, and fears arise, we look within,
where true strength lies. For God's own breath does
gently steer, Our hearts away from doubt and fear.*

*In humble trust, we find our peace, in divine guidance, our
worries cease. We walk by faith, not sight alone, with
God's Spirit, we're never on our own.*

*Through every trial, every task, In His presence, our souls
bask. For in His constant, loving embrace, we find our
purpose, our rightful place.*

*With each new dawn, and closing night, we are held in His
eternal light. A testament to a life divinely led, where every
word and deed is Spirit-fed.*

**Here's an allegory inspired by the idea of constant
divine presence:**

In a tranquil land, nestled between mountains and rivers,
lay the Kingdom of Lumina. This kingdom was renowned
for its perpetual light, a mystical glow that illuminated
every corner, day and night. The source of this light was
the Eternal Flame, a sacred fire believed to be the heart of
Lumina.

The people of Lumina thrived under the gentle,
unwavering glow of the Eternal Flame. They went about
their lives with a sense of peace and purpose, knowing
that the light was always there to guide and protect them.
Among them lived a young girl named Elara, whose
curiosity knew no bounds.

One day, Elara overheard a group of villagers discussing
the Eternal Flame. Some doubted its constancy,
wondering if it ever flickered or dimmed. Intrigued and
determined to find the truth, Elara decided to seek
answers from the Guardian of the Flame, an old sage
named Orion.

Orion welcomed Elara with a warm smile and led her to
the heart of the kingdom, where the Eternal Flame burned

bright and steady. "Guardian Orion," Elara began, "I've heard whispers that the Flame might not always be constant. Is there any truth to this?"

Orion chuckled softly and invited Elara to sit by the Flame. "Let me tell you a story, dear Elara," he said. "Long ago, when Lumina was first formed, the Eternal Flame was kindled by the Spirit of Harmony. It was a gift to the people, a symbol of divine presence and guidance."

He continued, "Some doubted the Flame's constancy, much like the whispers you heard. They thought the light might waver, leaving them in darkness. But as time passed, they realized the truth – the Flame never flickered, never dimmed. It was their own doubts that created the illusion of inconsistency."

Orion pointed to the Eternal Flame. "This Flame, like the Spirit of Harmony, is ever-present. It doesn't come and go, for it is woven into the very fabric of our existence. To believe otherwise is to misunderstand its nature."

Elara listened intently, her heart filling with a sense of awe and reassurance. She understood now that the Eternal Flame, much like divine presence, was a constant, unwavering force. It was their faith and perception that sometimes faltered, not the Flame itself.

With newfound clarity, Elara returned to the villagers and shared what she had learned. The people of Lumina embraced this truth, and their trust in the Eternal Flame grew stronger. They realized that the light was always with them, guiding and sustaining them through every moment of their lives.

And so, the Kingdom of Lumina continued to thrive under the perpetual glow of the Eternal Flame, its people united by the unwavering belief in the constant divine presence that illuminated their hearts and souls.

Christ's redeeming power

True understanding and belief in Christ's redeeming power cannot come from merely knowing or agreeing with written or spoken words about Him. Instead, it requires an internal, personal experience of transformation, which involves a spiritual death and rebirth. This transformation must occur within the soul for Christ to be truly known and felt as salvation.

The redeemed state of the soul is essentially a resurrection of divine and holy life within it. This transformation, from the beginning to the end, is entirely the work of God's Spirit, just as the original creation of the soul was. The mysteries of Christ's redeeming power are not finite, physical things that can be understood through descriptions or ideas. They are spiritual experiences that belong solely to God, just like His creative power.

In summary:

- True understanding of Christ's redeeming power requires a personal, internal experience, not just knowledge or agreement with words.
- The redemption of the soul is a resurrection of divine life, entirely the work of God's Spirit.
- Christ's redeeming power is a spiritual experience, not something that can be fully understood through descriptions or ideas.
- Only God's power, which created the soul, can redeem it and bring forth goodness within it.

Emphasizing that any tendency towards goodness in a person is not their own doing but the work of Christ living within them.

Supernatural Element

Faith, hope, and love that does not come from God's direct influence within us can't truly benefit our souls or connect us with God's goodness, just like physical hunger can't feed us with heavenly bread. Anything a person without divine inspiration does in church is no more spiritually powerful than their everyday actions driven by a desire for wealth. This is because the natural, uninspired person acts out of self-interest, just like an animal. True spiritual transformation requires something supernatural, which the Bible calls the Word, Spirit, or Inspiration of God. Only this divine influence can lead us to genuinely think about God and desire heavenly things.

That genuine faith, hope, and love must come from God's immediate influence within us. Without this divine inspiration, our religious actions are no more spiritually beneficial than mundane activities done for selfish reasons. The "natural man" (someone not influenced by God's Spirit) is inherently self-centered, just like an animal focused on its basic needs. This self-centeredness limits their ability to perform truly divine acts.

True spiritual transformation requires something supernatural, which the passage identifies as the Word, Spirit, or Inspiration of God. Only through this divine influence can a person develop a genuine relationship with God and cultivate spiritual desires that go beyond their physical needs.

The Booklet emphasizes that genuine religious faith, hope, and love must come directly from God's influence within us. If these virtues aren't inspired by God's presence, they can't truly benefit our souls or connect us with God's goodness. This idea is compared to physical hunger that can't be satisfied by spiritual food.

The "natural man" refers to someone who operates without divine inspiration. Such a person, even if they participate in church activities, can't achieve true spiritual worship. Their actions in religious settings are no more meaningful than their everyday actions driven by self-interest, such as working for wealth.

All actions of a "natural man" are inherently selfish. This is because self-love, self-esteem, and self-seeking are natural to humans, just as they are to animals. A person cannot rise above this self-centered nature without divine intervention.

To overcome this selfish nature, this booklet points to the need for something supernatural, described in the Bible as the Word, Spirit, or Inspiration of God. Only through this divine influence can a person begin to genuinely think about God and develop spiritual desires that go beyond their physical needs.



