Part Two

Hello, my brothers and sisters. I'd like to welcome you back to the cogpod for part 2of the 'Uniqueness of the Holy Spirit'. I'm your host brother Ed. In part 2 we're going to answer three more questions. The first is; How is human interaction with the Holy Spirit made manifest? The second: How can one sin against the Holy Spirit? And the third: What is to be the role of the Holy Spirit in the last days? The answers to these questions will be taken up in Part 2. Are you ready for the journey? Then let's go!!! Our first major question is; How is human interaction with the Holy Spirit made manifest?

A] For one thing, human interaction with the Holy Spirit can be made manifest in that we can be filled with it. There are many, many scriptures that speak of individuals being filled with the Holy Spirit. Let's begin with Lu 1:13-15; 13 But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, because your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John. 14He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice at his birth, **15** for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He shall never take wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb. [NLT] We'll follow that up with Lu 1:41which reads: 41When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. [NIV] Now let's go to Lu 4:1 for further verification; 1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness [NIV] And the final scripture we'll look at regarding individuals being filled the Holy Spirit is Acts 9:17which reads; 17Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here-has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." [NIV] And there are so many, many more instances in the scriptures where individuals are filled with the Holy Spirit for the purpose of carrying out the will and work of Jehovah God and Jesus Christ.

B] A second way humans may interact with the Holy Spirit, is that it can <u>teach</u> us according to Jo 14:26 where Jesus said; <u>26</u>But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have told you. [NIV] The same point is also made at 1Jo 2:26&27; <u>26</u>I have written these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you. <u>27</u>And as for you, the

anointing you received from Him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But just as His true and genuine anointing teaches you about all things, so remain in Him as you have been taught. [BSB] Also note the words of our Lord Jesus at Jo 6:45 where he tells us; 45 is written in the Prophets: 'And they will all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard the Father and learned from Him comes to Me [BSB] Jesus again makes the point at Lu 12:12; 12 for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what needs to be said." [NLT] So indeed, the Holy Spirit can teach us.

C] A third way that humans have interacted with the Holy Spirit was made manifest in the among 1st century Christians in what may be deemed miraculous gifts. Let's consider some of them at 1Cor 12:4-11; 4There are different gifts, but the same Spirit. 5There are different ministries, but the same Lord. 6There are different ways of working, but the same God works all things in all people. 7Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. 8To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by the same Spirit, 9to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, 10to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in various tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. 11All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who apportions them to each one as He determines. [BSB] In the first century, miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit were given to the disciples

D] A fourth way The Holy Spirit can interact with humans is that it can also <u>guide</u> us according to Jesus at Jo 16:13 where he said; <u>13</u>However, when the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth. For He will not speak on His own, but He will speak what He hears, and He will declare to you what is to come. [NIV]

E] As far as a fifth way the Holy Spirit has interacted with humans, it been indispensable in producing the Holy Scriptures to serve as a lamp to our pathway that leads to eternal life. 2Tim 3:16; 16 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. [NLT] This point is also made at 2Pet 1:20&21; 20 Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, 21 or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God. [NLT] And as King David said at 2

Sam 23:2; **2**The Spirit of LORD JEHOVAH spoke by me and his word was upon my tongue [HPBT]

2] Now it's time to consider our second major question; How might one sin, against the Holy Spirit? Let's let the bible tell us. Mk3:28-30; 28 Truly I tell you, the sons of men will be forgiven all sins and blasphemies, as many as they utter. 29But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; he is guilty of sin eternal." 30Jesus made this statement because they were saying, "He has an unclean spirit." [BSB] This was blasphemy of the darkest kind. Earlier in vs 22 of Mk 3, they had made this accusation; 22And the scribes who had come down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is possessed by Beelzebul," and, "By the prince of the demons He drives out demons." [BSB] After seeing the power of the Holy Spirit in action, they accused the only begotten son of God of being demon possessed. A blind man healed by the power of the Holy Spirit made this astute observation in Jo 9 vss 30-33; 30 "That is remarkable indeed!" the man said. "You do not know where He is from, and yet He opened my eyes. 31We know that God does not listen to sinners, but He does listen to the one who worships Him and does His will. 32 Never before has anyone heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. 33 If this man were not from God, He could do no such thing." [BSB] To the blind man, it was inexcusable and defied reason that the religious leaders did not know where Jesus was from. The blind man's reasoning was flawless. If this man were not from God, he stated, He could do no such thing. Obviously, Jehovah's Holy Spirit was the power behind the healing. Rather than acknowledging the obvious truth, they coldheartedly proved true to their nature as evidenced by their response in vs 34; 34They replied, "You were born in utter sin, and you are instructing us?" And they threw him out. [BSB] Their response reminds us of a question Jesus asked of religious leaders on another occasion found at Mt 23:33 which says; **33**You serpents, you offspring of vipers, how will you escape the judgment of Gehenna? [WEB] Please notice Jesus' reaction when He heard what the religious leaders had done to the blind man of Jo 9 in vss 35-41; 35When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, He found the man and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" 36"Who is He, Sir?" he replied. "Tell me so that I may believe in Him." 37"You have already seen Him," Jesus answered. "He is the One speaking with you." 38"Lord, I believe," he said. And he worshiped Jesus. 39 Then Jesus declared, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind may see and those who see may become blind." 40 Some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard this, and they asked Him, "Are we

blind too?" 41"If you were blind," Jesus replied, "you would not be guilty of sin. But since you claim you can see, your guilt remains." [BSB] It appears that these people were in danger of what is spoken of at Lu 12:10 which says; 10 And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.[BSB] Again at Mt 12:31&32; 31 Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. 32Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the one to come. [BSB] At Heb 10:26-29 we are given a clue regarding a sin against the Holy Spirit; 26 If we deliberately go on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no further sacrifice for sins remains, 27but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume all adversaries. 28 Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29How much more severely do you think one deserves to be punished who has trampled on the Son of God, profaned the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and insulted the Spirit of grace? [NIV] When an individual sees irrefutable evidence of the Holy Spirit at work and refuses to acknowledge it, it places them in a very dangerous position. Jo 10:25; 25" already told you," Jesus replied, "but you did not believe. The works I do in My Father's name testify on My behalf. [BSB] Vss 37&38: 37 If I am not doing the works of My Father, then do not believe Me. 38But if I am doing them, even though you do not believe Me, believe the works themselves, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in Me, and I am in the Father." [BSB] Note the account found at Mt 28 starting in vss 2-4; 2Suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, rolled away the stone, and sat on it. 3His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. 4The guards trembled in fear of him and became like dead men. Now reading vss 11-1511 While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests all that had happened. 12And after the chief priests had met with the elders and formed a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money 13 and instructed them: "You are to say, 'His disciples came by night and stole Him away while we were asleep.' 14If this report reaches the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble." 15So the guards took the money and did as they were instructed. And this account has been circulated among the Jews to this very day. [BSB] Instead of trembling in Godly fear over the irrefutable account of what had taken place, an obvious act involving the Holy Spirit, those religious leaders countered with an evil

plan and paid a large sum of money to deliberately distort the truth. It is as Jesus had earlier stated at Mt 23:33 which says; <u>33</u>You serpents, you offspring of vipers, how will you escape the judgment of Gehenna? [WEB] [Lake of fire, second death]

3] Now for our third major question. What the bible says regarding the role of the Holy Spirit in the last days.

The bible shows that the Holy Spirit would have a unique role to play in the last days. Notice what God's word has to say about it at Joel 2:28-32; **28**And after this I shall pour out my Spirit on everybody, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy and your Elders shall dream dreams and your young men shall see visions 29Also on Servants and upon Maid Servants I shall pour out my Spirit in those days 30 And I shall perform wonders in Heaven and in the Earth, blood and fire and plumes of smoke **31**The sun shall be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and awesome day of LORD JEHOVAH will come **32**And everyone who will call the name of LORD JEHOVAH shall be delivered, because on the hill of Zion and in Jerusalem will be salvation, as LORD JEHOVAH said to save whomever LORD JEHOVAH calls [HPBT] To be assured that this will take place, as Deut 19:15 says; 150ne witness is not enough to convict anyone accused of any crime or offense they may have committed. A matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses. [NIV] So where is our second witness? Acts 2:17-21; 16No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 17" 'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. 18Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. 19I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. 20The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord [Jehovah]. 21And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord [Jehovah] will be saved.' [NIV] There is one very important addition the second witness makes, where Peter was inspired by Holy spirit to say; 'In the last days God Says'. What momentous time period are we talking about here? Let the word of God speak. Mt 24:29-31; 29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days: 'The sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.' 30 At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and all the tribes of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming

on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. 31 And He will send out His angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather His elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other. [BSB] Is Jesus applying Joel's prophecy in regard to His second coming? Notice additional scriptural witnesses, starting with Lu 21:25-36; 25"There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. 26 People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. 27At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." 29 He told them this parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. **30**When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. 31Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near. 32"Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. 33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. 34"Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. 35For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. 36Be always on the watch and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man." [NIV] Again, Jesus is quoting a portion of Joel's prophecy relating it to His second coming just prior to Armageddon. A third witness at Mk 13:24-31; 24"But in those days. following that distress, " 'the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; 25 the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.' 26 "At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. 27And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens. 28"Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. 29Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door. **30**Truly I tell you; this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. 31Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. [NIV] Here we have three witnesses testifying regarding what Jesus said in the context of Joel chapter 2 regarding Holy Spirit being poured out in the last days. During the absolute most distressing period in all of human history, in association with the second coming of Jesus, Holy spirit will be poured out as it was at Pentecost along

with the gifts of visions, dreams and prophecy. That makes perfect sense because if there was ever a time the true children of God needed unerring guidance for safety and protection, it would be at that tumultuous time period. If there was ever a time when the children of God needed unerring assurance that Jehovah, the Almighty through His King Jesus was in their presence and was poised to save them; it would be then. Will there be some of the other manifestations of the Holy Spirit as was earlier brought to our attention in 1Cor 12 that were distributed among our first-century brothers? While these were manifestations of the Holy Spirit's work regarding the 1st century children of God; we just don't know for a certainty whether or not they'll be manifest among the children of Jehovah and Jesus just prior to Jesus second coming and just prior to Armageddon. We do, however, have the absolute assurance of dreams, visions and prophesying. What's really amazing is that after the supernatural evidence of the Holy Spirit at work among the disciples of Christ, only three thousand Israelites out of hundreds of thousands present at the festival of Pentecost became believers. I guess that should not be surprising because out of the tens of thousands that saw the work of the Holy spirit through Jesus, only 120 were in the upper room for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the inauguration of the Christian congregation. The deliverance and protection of the children of God at Armageddon may well rival, and even surpass, the miraculous deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt. 1Thess 4:15-17 informs us at to what will happen at a future event when it says; 15By the word of the Lord, we declare to you that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will be the first to rise. 17 After that, we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will always be with the Lord. It makes you wonder how the two witnesses of Rev 11:3-6 will fit in with the aforementioned scripture when it says; **3**And I will empower my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth." 4These witnesses are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. 5If anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouths and devours their enemies. In this way, anyone who wants to harm them must be killed. 6These witnesses have power to shut the sky so that no rain will fall during the days of their prophecy, and power to turn the waters into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague as often as they wish. [BSB] Just as the Holy Spirit

was at work in Egypt through Moses and Aaron, it will be at work in the hands of Jesus during the last days of this wicked system through his two witnesses. In what way exactly? We don't know. Who are the two witnesses? We can't say for certain right now. But all the children of God will be eager to find out!!! There is so much to learn and glean from Jehovah's word the bible. Our burning intention is to delve deeper into it on a regular basis. Why? Ps 1:2&3 avails a noteworthy reason for all the children of God when it says; 2But his delight is in the law of Jehovah; And on his law doth he meditate day and night. 3And he shall be like a tree planted by the streams of water, That bringeth forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also doth not wither; And whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. [ASV] The children of God delight in the law of Jehovah. It is of constant concern to us both night and day. It is the only source of true refreshment and life everlasting. Prosperity belongs to those who make up the household of God. And so, the subject of our next podcast #6 will be; 'Jesus' submission to Jehovah'. Previous podcasts have dealt with this subject; however, this podcast is for those who would like to consider some additional scriptural information regarding that subject. So, until then my brothers and sisters. This journey too, will be an informative one. This is brother Ed saying so long for now, and I hope to see you in podcast #6.