

Memorials to signs**By Dr. M. Halloway****Amplification - Dr. J. Gangwer****Memorials and Mysteries****‘The Mystery of Christ’s Indwelling’
(Colossians 1:26 - 28)**

Intro: In the Old Testament we have several recordings of the manifestation of the person of Christ. This is called a Christophany and it is derived from the Greek words, ‘Christos’ meaning Christ, and the Greek verb ‘phaino’ which means to appear. The best example of a Christophany is found in the book of **Daniel 3:23 – 26. (24 & 25)** – “Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, *and* spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king.

He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.”

A ‘Theophany’ is the appearance of God Himself. In **Genesis 18:1 & 2**, we have three heavenly figures that appeared to Abraham. The question is whether or not one of these heavenly figures was a ‘Theophany’ or a ‘Christophany’? I suppose one can go to the internet and find arguments for one or the other. However, whichever position you may take it is clear that God, whether the triune God or the Son of God, Abraham had an encounter with three heavenly individuals.

The Holy Spirit, the third part of the God-head operated differently in the Old Testament than He does in this dispensation of grace. In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit did not indwell men as He does presently in the age of grace. In the O. T. the Holy Spirit worked primarily from the outside of rather than indwelling them. It was an empowering ministry in which He empowered the individual or individuals for which God had a task or a role. In **Judges 14:6** concerning Sampson, or **I Samuel 10:10 & 11:6** concerning King Saul. Today He indwells – **Ephesians 4:30; I Corinthians 6:19; II Corinthians 6:16.**

Which brings us to this point:

I. The indwelling of Christ -Colossians 1:26 – 28.

A. The ascension of Christ was important in making way for the coming and _____ ministry of the Holy Spirit – **John 16:4 – 14.**

1. The _____ is expressed here by the Lord – **John 16:7.**
2. The _____ of the Holy Spirit – **John 16:8 – 15.**

a. He will “_____” the world of sin, righteousness & judgment – (convict, expose) the weight is to convince - **John 16:8**.

(1) Of _____ – **verse 9**, because they believed not.

(2). Of _____ – **verse 10**, Christ was the standard and since He is going to return to the Father, we need the Holy Spirit & we need a continual reminder of what righteousness looks like. **John 16:14**.

(3). Of _____ (kresis) – verse 11 – that Christ has the power to judge sin and all who reject Christ be it Satan or man.

(a). “The prince of this world” is _____ – **John 12:31, 14:30, Ephesians 2:2**.

(b). He blinded the eyes of _____ – **John 12:38 – 41**.

(c). He blinds the eyes of the _____ – **II Corinthians 4:3 – 4**.

b. He will “_____” us into all truth – **John 16:13; John 17:17**.

c. He will “_____” of Christ and about Himself – **John 16:13**.

d. He will “_____” Christ – **John 16:14**.

B. So, then, how does this answer the question of how it is that Christ indwells or lives with in the Redeemed?

C. The short answer is that due to the Holy Spirit’s _____ and His indwelling; Christ via the Holy Spirit lives within us as the Holy Spirit conducts His ministry.

1. Remembering the Holy Spirit’s ministry also includes **Romans 8:29**.

2. The word “conformed” [sommorphos] meaning – having the _____ form as or similar.

3. The Holy Spirit indwells us _____ our moral and spiritual character to that of Christ.

4. It is that process in **Romans 12:2** in which we are admonished to _____ be “conformed” [suschematizo] to this world, but to be transformed [Metamorpho].

a. ‘Conformed’ indicating here this is being done by someone one choosing to conform themselves to another’s pattern and being in the negative it has to do with patterning to the world. (Present tense, passive voice, imperative mood)

b. ‘Metamorpho’ – to change into another form (present tense, passive voice, imperative mood)

E. And thus Christ indwells the Redeemed of the Lord by the Holy Spirit, by the Word of God, progressive sanctification is that process by which our new nature in Christ is shaping and molding us to be more like Christ.

1. Jesus said that He and the Father were one, - **John 10:30 & 14:19**.

2. John stated in **I John 5:7** that the Father, Jesus, & the Holy Spirit are one.

3. To be indwelt by one is to be indwelt by all three. Their characteristics are the same.

F. This is that work of the Holy Spirit that is to shine forth from us – **Matthew 5:13**.