HERESY HUNTERS VS THE HOLY SPIRIT

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HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 1)**

Heresy Hunters, in their determination to expose wrongdoings and wrong teachings within the charismatic camp (and other religious camps) have done much damage to Christ's saints. For those who have given ears and hearts to these spiritual stalkers, perhaps wisdom and fair play would suggest we be equally keen to apply the same scrutiny to them. Make sense?

I am not a part of, nor do I defend, the charismatic camp (group, faction, division). I am in the (rather minuscule) New Testament camp, consisting of those who earnestly try to live by NT writings. My perspective regarding Heresy Hunters is as follows: *Heresy Hunters can no more be defined as New Testament christians than the charismatics they criticize.*

Like you and like me, Heresy Hunters have a degree of truth. And like us they have a degree of *untruth*. At best, we are gaining truth; nobody has arrived. Our trust must solely rest in *The Truth*. (Jesus: *"I am the way, **the truth**, and the life.")* Regarding untruth, these dogmatic stalkers have more in common with charismatic christians than both camps would care to admit.

While they do a commendable service to Christ's saints by exposing fallacies and malpractices, they also do much harm. Heresy Hunters fear, ignore and slight the Holy Spirit and, intentionally or otherwise, induce much of the body of Christ, **including many Facebook friends,** to likewise fear, ignore and slight Him. *This is a very serious matter!!* FB friends (etcetera) *cannot* live a successful christianity outside submission to the Holy Spirit. Therefore....

Therefore I hereby take "the sword of the Spirit" and declare war, not against Heresy Hunters (my siblings-in-Christ), but against their malignant heresies. Stay
tuned?

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 2)**

I previously wrote (see # 1) that heresy hunters are not New Testament christians, even though they would find such a remark demeaning. They seemingly pride themselves in their allegiance to the Bible, often comparing themselves to the Bereans who "*searched the Scriptures day after day to see if Paul and Silas were teaching the truth."* (Acts 17:11)In reality, however, they do not imitate (preach/teach) like Paul. For example....

Paul encouraged the Corinthians to earnestly seek the gifts of the Holy Spirit, including the gift of faith, the gift of healing, "the working of miracles", "prophecy", "discerning of spirits", "different kinds of tongues". But heresy hunters dismiss all such present-day manifestations of these gifts. AND, though the NT contains many examples of "signs and wonders" – (Acts 5:12: *"through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people")* – equivalent Holy Spirit happenings today would probably be accredited to the devil. Yes, the devil!

A logical question: *How can heresy hunters who negate (repudiate, scorn) New Testament testimonies and teachings claim to be New Testament christians?*

For the benefit of zealous heresy hunters throughout evangelicalism and the many (countless?) Facebook friends who have swallowed such non-biblical teachings, I repeat this question: *How can heresy hunters who negate (repudiate, scorn) New Testament testimonies and teachings claim to be New Testament christians?*

Don't you think you owe yourselves and those you influence an answer? Doesn't wisdom suggest you petition *The Teacher* – (Jesus: *"One is your Teacher, the Christ")* – for truth regarding heresy hunters *before* you see Him face-to-face, *before* you "appear before the judgment seat of Christ"?

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 3)**

I previously wrote (# 1): *"I hereby take 'the sword of the Spirit' and declare war, not against heresy hunters (my siblings-in-Christ), but against their malignant heresies."* My precious FB friends, I want you to know you ain't seen nothing yet! I am not going away. I will not allow fear of man to muzzle me.

There's important and then there's crucial. Exposing heresy hunters' heresies is beyond important..... it is crucial. I make three (relational) statements for your consideration: 1) Heresy hunters are cessationists. 2) Cessationists are not *(cannot be!)* New Testament christians. 3) Only NT christians can live a successful christianity.

For those who may not know, a cessationist is someone who believes that the gifts of the Holy Spirit (healing, prophecy, visions, etc.) are no longer functional. And for those who may not know, a NT christian is someone who embraces NT standards and teachings. (The reverse of a NT christian is a Bible-plus or Bible-minus christian.) So again.... a cessationist (e.g., heresy hunter) *cannot* be a NT christian and therefore *cannot* be helpful.

Question to heresy hunters: *How can you consider yourselves to be NT christians while shunning NT teachings and precedents?* Question to my FB friends: *How can you consider heresy hunters (cessationists who reject the Holy Spirit) to be NT christians?*

This matter is beyond important; it is urgent! Your eternity (and the welfare of those you influence) is relative to your sensitivity to the Holy Spirit. Get it!?

Jesus: "He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak." Rejecting the lordship of the Holy Spirit is rejecting – to the same degree! – the lordship of Christ, the very One who sent Him to you.

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 4)**

Before going further, I want my FB friends (etcetera) to consider my definition of *heresy hunters*, a term I picked up years ago from charismatics (etcetera). The derogatory moniker – heresy hunters – is a rebuff to the continuous scorning of their religion. (I quickly and emphatically declare that I do not identify with, nor am I sympathetic toward, the charismatic religion (or any other religion), although I do share some of their core understanding of Scripture.) So here it goes....

Heresy hunter: *one who is obsessed with exactness of doctrine and passionately defends "the body of Christ" from those of inferior understanding.* Does this diligence make them more doctrinally precise than non-heresy hunters? Certainly not.

There are two avenues whereby the Holy Spirit inserts His truth into us.... 1) by way of our intellect and 2) by way of our spirit. Paul: *"The Spirit Himself **bears witness with our spirit** that we are the children of God."* Consider the words "bears witness". We know we are God's children because the Holy Spirit "bears witness" to this truth.... **and to all truth!** (Jesus: *"He will guide you into ALL truth.")*

The disregard heresy hunters have for the Holy Spirit seriously restricts them. Not bowing to His governance is not bowing to the governance of Jesus. One has truth to the degree one has the "Spirit of truth", not more and not less. Much Holy Spirit = much truth; little Holy Spirit = little truth.

So heresy hunters, generally speaking, depend on the feeble (puny, troubled, susceptible) intellect to attain truth. It was this feeble (puny, troubled, susceptible) intellect that ushered in their doctrine of cessationism and several other damaging heresies.

FB friends, you have no hope of fulfilling that unique calling on your life if you ignore/reject the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Do you agree?

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 5)**

I had serviced many Kelowna residents in my forty years as an electrical contractor. And like you I have many acquaintances within and without christianity. I have come to this conclusion: **Most people, christians and non-christians, do not tell deliberate lies.**

However cessationists (most heresy hunters are cessationists) are different. They assume many in Christ's church routinely fabricate. I will give you one of many examples....

Most of you have read or heard about Todd Burpo's "Heaven Is For Real" regarding his four-year-old Colton who had a visitation of heaven while undergoing an alarming operation. And, I assume, most of you, like me, believed Todd's account of his son seeing Jesus, angels, his great-grandfather, and his sister who had "died in his mummy's tummy". So how do heresy hunters react to this moving testimony?

John, a kingpin in the heresy hunter/cessationist camp, realizing his vast army of ardent followers had been impacted by both the book and the ensuing movie, felt a need to publicly decry "Heaven Is For Real" as a fabrication.

John's denunciation was, in fact, labelling Todd Burpo, a young pastor and the book's co-author, a fabricator whose motive must be profit and/or fame. Also, those who accept John's comments as valid is believing Colton, now 25 and still affirming his childhood experience, to be a mischievous collaborator.

John, a calvinist pastor and multi-millionaire author of several best-sellers, has impacted many (most?) of my christian FB friends. I 'hear' John and likeminded h-hunters speaking through your postings. I discern a hesitancy to embrace Christ's Sent-one, the Holy Spirit, as the mainstay of your christianity. I suggest that anyone ignoring the leadership the very "Spirit of Christ" will be deeply regretful at Christ's upcoming judgment seat.

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 6)**

In my opinion, less than 5% of born-again, blood-washed saints of Jesus Christ (in North America) have surrendered themselves, *primarily,* to the guidance (leadership, governance) of the Holy Spirit.

In my opinion, less then 5% are fulfilling their potential as combatants against "the god of this age".

In my opinion, the relative few who do submit to the guidance (governance) of the Holy Spirit are, in the here-and-now, laying up an abundance of treasures in heaven. (Jesus: *"Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven.")*

In my opinion, the greatest treasure is the many saints in heaven rescued from eternal torment because of one's submission to "the Spirit of truth".

In my opinion, Spirit-filled christians (Paul: *"Be filled with the Spirit")* are NT christians, those endeavouring to live by NT codes and precedents.

In my opinion, most evangelical pulpits are manned by the 95% who ignore, and thus grieve, the Person of the Holy Spirit.

In my opinion, heresy hunters are responsible for many christians distancing themselves from the Holy Spirit.

In my opinion, the apostle Paul, although continually harassed by heretical Jews, could not be rightly

termed a heresy hunter, but rather a Jesus hunter. (Paul: *"That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His suffering.")*

In my opinion, Christ's Sent-one, the Holy Spirit, does not want us fixating on heresies and h-hunters, but rather being consumed by, believing in, adhering to, trusting in, abiding in, worshipping, exalting, preaching and teaching Jesus Christ, "that great Shepherd of the Sheep".... our Rabbi.... our soon coming King.... the only(!) "head of the church".... our healer and comforter and friend.

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 7)**

Matthew chapter 7 records two promises from our Lord Jesus. First promise: The one who *"hears these sayings of Mine, and does them"* will be protected from the storms of life. Second promise (and warning): The one *"who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them"* will *not* be protected.

Do cessationalists concur with the "sayings" of Jesus? (Keep in mind most heresy hunters are cessationists.) Or do they dissent? Let's check it out...

Jesus: *"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also."* Note the words, "most assuredly" (without any doubt or reservation). And note the words, "*I* say to you." Jesus, the very Son of God, the promised Messiah is speaking, through Matthew, to you! His words should be revered! Amen? Now note the words "he who believes in Me". This most certainly does not include every christian, not even most. We know this simply because most christians do not do "the works that" Jesus did.

A friend, an evangelist who has held crusades in dozens of countries has, over several decades, witnessed Jesus healing thousands of deaf, blind and otherwise afflicted people, and he has cast out, in the name of Jesus, numerous evil spirits. His secret? He is a christian who believes in Jesus.

Cessationists would not believe this brother's many accounts of the supernatural/miraculous. So cessationists conclude, *"He who believes in , the works that he also."* Most h-hunters, therefore, are *compelled* to believe that those claiming to doing (or witnessing) such supernatural manifestations must be either delusional or fraudulent.

My FB brothers and sisters in Christ (and many etceteras), you have a decision to make. Will you place your trust in the words of Jesus or the words of h-hunters/cessationists?

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 8)**

My definition of HERESY: "A (seriously) injurious teaching that goes beyond mere errancy or misunderstanding of Scripture." (A stricter definition – a false teaching or misunderstanding – would render us all heretics; nobody has full understanding.) The following is my list of perceived heresies within evangelicalism (most of which are common both to the heresy hunters faction and the

charismatic faction they so routinely castigate)....

*** division of Christ's church into ministerial (clergy) and laity
*** centrality of christian leadership over centrality of Christ
*** submission to christian leadership rather than the Holy Spirit
*** the evangelical tithe (surrendering 10% of one's income to a church)
*** salaries
*** sunday collections
*** church mortgage
*** allegiance to a 'home church'
*** forbidden pulpit access
*** credentials and diplomas
*** appellations (titles, e.g., "pastor", "reverend", "doctor")
*** accountability to anyone other than Jesus Christ
*** church hierarchy
*** institutionalism (calendar christianity)
*** church program
*** denominationalism
*** calvinism (God determines who is to be saved and who is not)
*** cessationism (God ceased doing the miraculous/supernatural)

FB friends, most (all?) of you have adopted/embraced, to varying degrees, many (most?) of these damaging heresies. There is a way out, an escape strategy, a new beginning. This escape has a name.... Jesus Christ. Seriously apologize to Lord Jesus. Ask Him for the courage to be a NT christian.

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 9)**

I happened upon a podcast featuring Alan, a "Word Faith" disciple and Blake, "a self described reformed cessationist, southern baptist, author" and a heresy hunter. The two were having a rather lengthy conversation in an attempt to "find common ground" in their two opposing camps.

I present these two brothers because they represent two enormous religious systems that, I strongly suspect, have made inroads into the christianity of many (most? all?) FB friends. Your postings reveal an unhealthy distancing between you and the Holy Spirit. This is no insignificant matter; your eternity, and that of those you influence, are being devalued.

After listening to these brothers, it was obvious they both had abandoned Jesus as first love. (Jesus to the Ephesians: *"I have this against you, that you have left your first love.")* How could I come to such a demeaning conclusion? Listen to Jesus: *"Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks."* What's in comes out. How often did these two brothers speak Christ throughout their extended conversation? Almost never. And how often did they mention the Holy Spirit? Not once. When Alan asked Blake who most influenced his christianity he listed many people.... but he didn't mention

Jesus. Nor the Holy Spirit. Nor Paul or John or Peter or James.

These two brothers were far apart on several crucial issues. It is possible both could be wrong (they *were* both wrong!) but it is not possible both were right. That means that at least one must be in heresy. But wait a minute! Don't they both have the "Spirit of truth" dwelling within? And doesn't the Holy Spirit always lead into truth, never untruth? Doesn't that prove that at least one – **and the religion he so faithfully represents!** – is not guided by the Holy Spirit? And....

How can religionists who are not guided by the Holy Spirit benefit you? Do you really want (not a Christ-less but) a Christ-impoverished heresy hunter or word-faith devotee impacting your christianity? Talk it over with Jesus?

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 10)**

A bird having one wing significantly larger than the other wing will fly in circles. The christian equally out of balance will also fly in circles, always going but never arriving. An unbalanced christian is one who has more of the Holy Spirit than the Word (the Bible) OR more of the Word than the Holy Spirit. The ideal is to have an equal abundance of both.

My perspective: Most christians have *little* Holy Spirit AND *little* Word, and can be compared to a large eagle with two small wings. Such spend much energy fluttering around but producing little.

My perspective: Christians who have little of the Holy Spirit have little of Jesus (relationally speaking). Jesus said, *"Without me you can do nothing."* And Jesus also said, *"He who abides in Me.... bears much fruit."* The stronger our attachment to Jesus, the more fruit we bear.

My perspective: Christians who have abandoned Jesus as "first love" (which I judge to be 95%) have little of the "Spirit of Christ" and therefore a meager understanding of, and devotion to, the Word.

My perspective: Hersey hunters have (relationally speaking) very little of Jesus – their speech gives them away – and therefore little of "the Spirit of truth", and therefore little truth. This explains why they believe in cessationism even though they cannot cite (quote) *one* verse endorsing this supposition. Repeat, not one verse! Repeat again, not one!!

My perspective: H-hunters within evangelicalism match the perseverance of mormons and jehovah witnesses (and are motivated by the same instigator!).

My perspective: FB friends hoping to give a good account before Judge Jesus must start behaving like adults, verifying every teaching for themselves. Ephesians 4:14: *"We should no longer be children , tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting."*

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 11)**

A (very!) serious question to my FB friends (and many etceteras): *Do you think Lord Jesus wants you to be a New Testament christian, one who patterns his/her christianity after His teachings, NT precedents and NT teachers (Paul, John, James, etc.)?* This question warrants serious, prayerful consideration because....

Because the judgment seat of Christ is a reality. Because the welfare of those you influence is at stake. Because the population of both heaven and hell will be affected by your answer. Because you want to serve and please the One who "was wounded for our transgressions" and "bruised for our iniquities". Consider....

If you cannot sign the last page of the New Testament in the presence of the Father, His Son and the most Holy Spirit to signify and proclaim your determination to obey NT writings (as you understands them), you are not a NT christian.

A cessationist believes that God *stopped doing* many of the works/happenings that the NT records and therefore *cannot* be defined as a NT christian. Yet he assumes he is! His preposterous perspective seems to be, **"I obey the NT by not doing what the NT says!"** And, equally important,...

Every evangelical (one who has given oneself over to evangelical "commandments of men") likewise cannot define him/herself as a New Testament christian. His perspective is equally preposterous: **"I obey Christ, not by obeying NT teachings but, by obeying evangelical traditions!"** So one more time....

Do you think Lord Jesus wants you to be a NT christian?

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 12)**

Many (most?) denominational leadership conferences, whereby relative few are invited and the majority are excluded, clearly and emphatically establishes the reality of an awful schism within Christ's church. Check your memory.... when was the last time you were invited to such a conference? For most of my FB friends, the answer is never.

Of all the pastors (senior pastors, assistant pastors, youth pastors, etc.) attending your denomination's leadership conference, how many do you think are Christ-appointed? If your answer is *all*, you are mistaken. *Most* is equally wrong, as is *many,* as is *few*. The correct answer is *none*. That's none as in zero, zippo, zilch. "Can't be!", you protest?

When was your Pastor Fred (John, Frank or Whoever) appointed by Lord Jesus to be pastor of an evangelical assembly? There was a specific moment when Fred was "born of the Spirit". There was a moment when Fred became a paper boy, a student, a graduate, an employee.... and a husband and father and grandfather. But at what moment did he become a Christ-appointed shepherd of Christ's saints? Was it when handed a certificate at his seminary's graduation ceremony? Or perhaps when

first hired as a youth pastor?.... or assistant pastor?.... or senior pastor? Again, when was that exact moment?

There was no moment! Unlike every pastor at every conference of every denomination, Jesus never compromises His words or His ways. Peter declared Jesus to be *"a lamb without spot and without blemish."* Jesus: *"I tell the truth."* Jesus: *"I am.... the truth."* Denominations are man's creations, not Christ's creations. Becoming a pastor called for serious betrayal to Christ's Sent-one, the very "Spirit of Christ".

Heresy hunters have much in common with the charismatics and Word-faith people they gingerly (and often accurately) criticize, and only have to look in their own backyard to find enough fodder to satisfy their enormous appetite.

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 13)**

The 2024 Cessationist Conference was held at First Baptist Church, Mustang Oklahoma. During a Q&A session the eight conference lecturers – Justin, Jim, Conrad, Josh, Michael, Tom, Michael # 2, and Scott– were lined up along the spacious stage. Seemingly all eight could be dubbed heresy hunters. If given opportunity I would have asked the eight, all dressed like proud peacocks in their suits and ties, the following questions....

*** How can you consider yourselves New Testament christians if you ignore and disavow so many NT precedents?

*** Assuming you believe NT writings are *"given by inspiration of God, and are profitable for doctrine"*, how can you reconcile your NT-plus and NT-minus doctrines with the words of Jesus, *"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away"?*

*** You have stated that, unlike extreme cessationists, you do not disavow many NT giftings. Tell me, when was the last time any of you prayed and sang "with the Spirit" (in tongues)? Or witnessed "signs and wonders" in your assemblies? Or, through Christ, healed the blind and deaf and crippled?

*** If you consider Jesus to be the real "head of the church" how can you talk of church concerns while rarely referencing Him?

*** Would your people be better prepared to meet Judge Jesus at His judgment seat if they imitated Paul (Paul: *"Imitate me, as I also imitate Christ")* or if they imitated you?

*** How can you justify the awful evangelical tithe that has zero NT endorsement while rejecting gifts of the Spirit that do have NT endorsement?

So that's just a few questions I would have asked if given the opportunity. What questions would you have asked?

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 14)**

Paul often exposed the false teachings of Jews who were determined to impose their "commandments of men" on his converts. That was step # one. Step # two was pointing his injured converts back to Jesus. Heresy hunters also expose many false teachings, mostly within the charismatic and Word Faith religions. But they never point their audiences back to Jesus!

Why don't h-hunters point their audiences back to Jesus? The answer is both simple and sad.... it doesn't occur to them to do so! Jesus is not their "first love". They serve a faraway Jesus. They are not branches (Jesus: *"You are the branches")* abiding , primarily, in the vine (Jesus: *"I am the true vine").* How do I know? **Their speech gives them away....**

In their Q&A session – a panel of eight cessationists/h-hunters (see #13) – it was 45 minutes into the 58 minute session before someone mentioned the name of Jesus! (Jesus: *"Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks.")* H-hunters point their audiences to *their* first love, their religion!

Paul didn't want his converts obsessed with false religion and false religionists; he simply wanted to set them free. Once free, Paul pointed them to Jesus. FB friends, I likewise don't want to fill your heads and hearts with religion and religionists. I simply want you to be set free. Then, step # two, I point you back to your "first love". I urge you to make Paul's Center (the Lord Jesus) your Center.

I truly ache for many (most?) of my FB friends who are content to live out the remainder of their christianity at a fraction of their potential. Jesus said of His Father, *"By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit."* Without full submission to Christ's Sent-one, the Holy Spirit, you will bear little fruit, not much fruit. The Father will not be glorified.

I, your FB friend, point you, again and again and again, back to Jesus. Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! It's all about Jesus! Amen?

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 15)**

The mature verify; the immature don't**.** Jesus wants us to be childlike, not childish. Childlike: Jesus said, *"Unless you.... become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven."* If being childlike is required to gain entrance into Christ, is it not also a requirement to go deeper in Christ? Childish: Paul wrote, *"We should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting."* "Wind of doctrine", "trickery of men", "cunning craftiness", "deceitful plotting" have increased exponentially since Paul's day, and freely roam throughout evangelicalism.

Repeat: The mature verify; the immature don't. The immature are easily impressed, and therefore easily led astray. The terms *Bible scholar* and *theologian* and *doctor*, and *pastor* and *reverend* and *superintendent* etc. should impress nobody simply because they often (usually?) disagree with each other.

Repeat again: The mature verify; the immature don't. That certificate posted in the pastor's office should impress nobody; he is not Christ's agent, but his religion's agent. Paul to the Galatians: *"Those who seemed to be something–whatever they were, it makes no difference to me; God shows personal favoritism to no man."*

And again: The mature verify; the immature don't. The immature christian follows the crowd; the mature christian follows Christ. Paul: *"Those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit."* The mature are disciples of Christ; the immature are disciples of evangelicalism.

Once more: The mature verify; the immature don't. Followers of heresy hunters are, spiritually speaking, particularly immature, allowing themselves to be distanced from the very "Spirit of truth" and drawn into an ideology that is bizarre even by evangelical standard.

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 16)**

For every theologian within evangelicalism there is an opposite and equally eminent theologian. What does that tell you? Also, for every heresy within charismatic and word-faith camps there is an equally dangerous and debilitating heresy in the heresy hunters camp. Again, what does that tell you? Doesn't this loudly proclaim that christians – including seminary graduates and 'doctors' and 'reverends' and etceteras – cannot be trusted? Jeremiah: *"Cursed is the man who trusts in man."*

Take heart, there is One worthy of your trust. There is One who never misleads. That One is a Sent-one, sent to you by none other than the Lord Jesus Christ, and has actually taken up residence within you. Most important, He will guide you into as much truth as you want to have. No, truth doesn't come all at once. It comes in fragments, here a little, there a little.

To procure more truth you must procure more of "the Spirit of truth". (Paul: *"Be filled wth the Spirit.")* The Holy Spirit will enrich those seeking His guidance and withhold from those who don't sufficiently crave it. Although most evangelicals ignore the guidance of the Holy Spirit, cessationists go one step deeper into lunacy, denying their *need* to be guided by the Spirit. "We have the Bible and we have a brain. Who needs the Holy Spirit?"

Testimonies that say, "God spoke to me" or "The Spirit said..." or "Jesus spoke to me in a dream" or "In a vision I saw...." or "I felt lead of the Spirit to...." are considered offshoots of imagination (or, worse yet, devious fables). In the cessationist's christianity there are no miraculous healings, no "signs and wonders", no laughing or crying, no prophetic words. Boring.

A hesitation to sign the last page of the Bible (to symbolize your allegiance to its writings over any and all "commandments of men") may be an indication these determined and confused people have made inroads into your mind and heart. Something to talk over with Lord Jesus?

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 17)**

Justin is an intense heresy hunter who is confined to an electric wheelchair. His explanation for his cerebral palsy: *Several millennia ago Adam sinned against God.* That's it. That's his reason for being in a wheelchair. Justin, a cessationist, is a firm believer that healings ceased with the apostles. Justin, and/or his colleagues, have, through FB and other media, reached most of you now reading these words with this (what I consider to be) heresy.

Justin, at the 2024 Cessationist Conference, featured a film of (what he called) a "faith healer" who prayed for a clerk suffering pain in her back and arms from a car accident. After the prayer the clerk stretched and did a squat, and yes, she declared, "The pain is gone!" How does Justin explain that which had every appearance of a miracle healing?.... her healing was *psychosomatic* (mind over body) and would certainly (not possibly, not probably, but *certainly*) be gone in a very short time. So what is a psychosomatic healing? Justin explains, "There is a powerful peer pressure and group dynamic that is at work that makes people think they feel better." Can the word *psychosomatic* be found in the Bible? No. But let's move on....

I suffered for years from a mishap to my tailbone while doing electrical work. While attending a conference a guest speaker, Bill Johnson – whom Justin and his friends label a false teacher – asked anyone suffering in their tailbone to stand. I stood. Then Bill said to sit down hard to see if the pain was gone. I complied. Most of the pain was instantly gone, and a few days later gone completely. That was 15-20 years ago and my tailbone is still healed. Now....

I am either lying or I am telling the truth. There is no other possibility. If I am lying that would not only make me devious, but stupid. (Heb.4:13: *"All things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.")* But if I am telling the truth you must conclude that Justin (etcetera) teaches heresy. (Is it unkind to suggest you should never turn to an invalid in a wheelchair to learn about healing?) More about Justin in # 18.

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 18)**

Weird, weird, weird! *Weird* is the most suitable adjective to describe cessationist doctrine. In the last posting (# 17) I testified of a healing in my tailbone. Was I lying or telling the truth? Justin, an acclimed cessationalist, would be forced to consider me a liar. Why? Because my testimony conflicts with His conviction that Jesus no longer heals. Weird, weird weird! I take no offence; I am in good company. I introduce you to three brothers....

Len. One notable healing (of many thousands) occurred near his home town here in Canada. Rita was on her way to the hospital for a scheduled mastectomy, the roads were icy, there was a terrible accident, her body was a mess, she was put in a hinged body cast. Len prayed, Rita was instantly healed of broken bones (arm, collar bone, shoulder blade, four vertebrae), she got out of her wheelchair and walked, pain free and perfectly healed. And no more cancer, no mastectomy. And

the story gets better. About 34 years previous Rita was praying over unconscious (and unsaved) 17 year-old Len who barely survived an horrendous car crash worse than her own. To his doctor's surprise, Len was back at work two months after Rita's prayer.
Curry. This brother arguably has the world's largest healing ministry. One day he was clowning around with his son, kicking stuff out of his recently drained swamp. Curry didn't know a neighbour had dropped a bowling ball into that swamp, gave it a hard kick, and severely damaged his foot. *Ouch!!*He prayed, went to bed, and woke up healed.
Gord. This brother was in the Kelowna hospital, afflicted with a very serious disease that recently killed his brother. He asked elders from his baptist church to pray for him.... after some hesitation they complied.... Gord was suddenly healed by his precious Jesus and home the next day. This incredible miracle motivated him into a multi-country healing/deliverance ministry.

Justin would deny the authenticity of these healings AND the thousands (tens of thousands?) Jesus has healed through them. Weird, weird, weird!

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 19)**

An imaginary (repeat, imaginary!) young couple recently attached themselves to a calvinistic, cessationistic, heresy hunter church. They wanted to start a family, but were fearful that at least some of the children would be predetermined by the God they loved and worshipped to suffer eternally in hell. Their newly adopted religion has convinced them that God, in His holy sovereignty, had long ago decided who was and who was not to be saved.

How could they bring a child into the world knowing it could be excluded from God's list of people that He predetermined to be saved? So although they diligently practiced birth control, accidents do happen, and soon their beautiful accident was lying down in her crib, ever so sweet. The question plaguing the young couple and robbing them of sleep was, "On which list is our precious baby on!?" Was she on God's *forever damned* list or God's *forever saved* list?

Their newly adopted religion taught that God was sovereign and immutable, and therefore, they concluded, no pleading with God could get Him to switch a name from the damned list to the saved list. The words of Jesus regarding the *"broad way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it"* convinced them that their little wonder was more likely than not to be on God's *dreadful* list. **And nothing could change God's immutable will!**

Crying out to the Father and His Son for mercy, daily reading from her children's Bible, religiously bringing her to sunday school, filling the house with worship recordings, giving thousands of hugs and kisses throughout her teen years – **nothing (nothing!) could save her**.

Imagination time over, I now speak reality to my FB friends throughout the world. This is the dreadful, weird religion that many of you have embraced and most of you have allowed to diminish

your dependence on Christ's Sent-one, the most holy, holy, Holy Spirit. I beg you.... talk it over with Jesus!

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 20)**

I could never trust the scientist who promotes the theory of evolution; anyone concluding that something evolved out of nothing should enjoy no credibility whatsoever. Likewise, anyone teaching that God predetermines who is and who is not to be saved (calvinists) and anyone teaching Jesus no longer instantly heals the sick (cessationists) should likewise enjoy no credibility.

Cessationists are not New Testament christians (those who pattern their christianity after NT teachings and precedents). If a cessationist were to cover with a black felt pen every NT verse contrary to his beliefs, most pages would be ravaged. And yet he considers himself a NT christian!

Seemingly and sadly, if my FB friends (and many etceteras) likewise smeared every verse they refuse to allow into their christianity, their NT would also be soiled (though, perhaps, not to the same degree). And yet you also consider yourselves to be NT christians! Which leads to the question, *"What is a New Testament christian?"* What qualifies or disqualifies you? Determine for yourselves if you are or are not a NT christian. Consider....

*** Paul's letters to various churches reveal that most christians then could not be defined as NT christians. They were as rare then as they are today.
*** NT christians are Christ-centered. (Not christian-centered, pastor-centered, family-centered, 'me'-centered.)
*** NT christians speak Jesus. The NT 'speaks' Jesus over 1000 times. Today **Jesus' name is seldom mentioned** in conversations or pulpit ministry.
*** NT christians "Walk in the Spirit". (Gal.5:16) They don't worship the Holy Spirit (Jesus: "*He will glorify Me")* or petition the Holy Spirit. They simply submit to His guidance. (Jesus: *"He will guide you into all truth.")*
*** A NT christian cannot be a baptist, pentecostal, charismatic, mennonite, word faith, etc., etc., etc. These words cannot be found in NT writings.

I again strongly suggest that you define for yourselves what a NT christian is and is not. My list of prerequisites will be extended in # 21.

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 21)**

In the last posting (# 20) I asked a question of vital importance: **"What is a New Testament christian"?** What qualifies or disqualifies you from being one? I expand in this posting my list of

prerequisites for your consideration. So here we go....

A NT CHRISTIAN IS ONE WHO....

*** **One who** is preparing to meet Judge Jesus at His judgment seat. (Paul: *"We shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.... each of us shall give account of himself to God.... whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord.")*
*** **One who** is not a cessationist, pentecostal, baptist, etcetera.
*** **One who** experiences, or at least concurs with NT "wonders and signs". (Luke: *"Many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.... Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs.")* We shouldn't be suspicious of assemblies experiencing NT "wonders", but those who don't.
*** **One who** prays in tongues. Jesus: *"These signs will follow those who believe .... they will speak with new tongues."* Paul: *"I will pray with the spirt and.... I will sing with the spirit."*
*** **One who** would never finances religion or religionists via the awful evangelical tithe or any other means.
*** **One who** never calls anyone other than Jesus his/her pastor (shepherd).
*** **One who** is seriously involved in Christ's Great Commission.
*** **One who** submits to the personal One-to-one guidance of the Holy Spirit to take him through the remainder of his/her christianity.
*** **One who** depends on the Holy Spirit to unveil the mysteries of the Bible.

I can condense my list to this: **One who** reverently signs, in the presence of Jesus, the last page of the New Testament to symbolize his/her intention to always choose NT writings over traditions of men. What do you think?

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 22)**

Most heresy hunters are cessationists. Cessationists, generally speaking, are thoroughly convinced that miracle healings ended with the passing of the apostles. Their rationale goes something like this: *Most healings recorded in the New Testament were accomplished through the apostles.... since the apostles have passed there are no more miracle healings.... the purpose of the miraculous was to ensure credibility for the apostles and the gospel of Jesus Christ.... since we now have the printed Bible such signs are unnecessary.* Any ministry claiming such healings are suspect, and h-hunters will diligently track them down and expose them as frauds and false teachers.

I am equally convinced that our Lord Jesus Christ *most certainly* heals miraculously today. (I have experienced such a healing.) If I am wrong I could rightly be labelled a false teacher. But equally true, if h-hunters are wrong *they* are the false teachers. If I can convince my FB friends (etcetera) that Jesus most certainly heals today, h-hunters should lose all credibility.

Hopefully, if I can convince you of their errancy regarding healing, you would challenge their other

"doctrines of demons", including the supposition that Jesus no longer wants to lead His people – directly, individually, One-to one – through His most holy Spirit. That's the real issue! Yes, healing is significant, but pale in comparison to a rightful relationship with the very "Spirit of Christ"! You have no hope of becoming an overcomer without the Holy Spirit, but will continue to be overcome. So....

So the major issue is "Heresy Hunters vs the Holy Spirit". And, again, that is the reason I present to you **in the following postings** (what I believe to be) insurmountable Bible evidence that Jesus heals as readily today as ever. And, again, if h-hunters are in error on this matter, you have no reason to trust their judgment on other heresies, no matter how slick their presentations. My brothers and sisters in Christ, *"Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ."*

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 23)**

This is a continuation of # 22 whereby I stated that if I can convince my FB friends (etcetera) of the absurd and injurious concept that Jesus no longer heals miraculously, cessationists/h-hunters should lose all credibility, and their other "strange doctrines" should be prayerfully re-examined. First, let us consider Heb. 8:6....

"He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises." So let's look at the Old Covenant regarding health and healing, keeping in mind that the New Covenant (yours and mine) is more excellent....

Psalm 91 lists many promises for Old Covenant saints who *" in the secret place of the Most High"* including, *"He shall deliver from.... the perilous pestilence".... "No evil shall befall , nor shall any plaque come near dwelling".... "He shall give His angels charge over ".... God "will deliver ".... " shall call upon Me and I will answer "... I will deliver and honor "... "I will be with in trouble".... "with long life will I satisfy ".*

So how do h-hunters explain why saints today (who have a "*better* covenant.... established on *better* promises") do not likewise enjoy these benefits? They cannot. The most they can do is list abuses of certain charismatic and word-faith preachers.

Though not an authority on healing, I am certain of this: Generally speaking, christians would be much healthier (and happier) if they simply made Lord Jesus the **center** of their christianity! Something to pray about? (More on our "better covenant" next posting.)

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 24)**

24 could be titled "Heresy Hunters vs Jesus Christ". Should we build our christianity (e.g., physical healing) on the words of cessationists, or the words of Lord Jesus? Jesus: *"Whoever hears these sayings of mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man."* Throughout church history saints of Christ Jesus were made to choose between His "sayings" and the sayings of others. Today the

majority of evangelicals have chosen, to various degrees, to build their christianity on "tradition of men", perhaps the most harmful being those of cessationists. Christians die early (and thus many non-christians die eternally) because of their insistence Jesus no longer heals supernaturally.

Jesus: *"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also."* "He who believes in Me" does not, unfortunately, include most born-again christians. Unbelief is a contagion spread throughout Christ's church on earth. Even the twelve were so afflicted. Jesus told them why they were unable to heal an epileptic: "Because of your unbelief."

Jesus to two blind men, *"According to your faith let it be to you."* Reality: It is, in the here-and-now, being done to every christian according to his/her faith. (Peter: *"God shows no partiality.")* Faith or lack of faith – not the sovereignty of God – determines who does and who does not get healed.

Jesus: *"These signs will follow those who believe: In My name.... they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."* "Those who believe" includes *all* "those who believe", then and now, and excludes *all* those who don't. Doesn't this negate the cessationist's heresy that only the apostles had power to "lay hands on the sick, and they will recover"?

Jesus: *"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away."* H-hunters teach that Christ's words have indeed passed away, **ceased** being reliable. Next posting, # 25, will be "Heresy Hunters vs Paul".

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 25)**

25: **Heresy Hunters vs Paul**. Cessationists insist that our Lord Jesus has terminated the miraculous/supernatural, claiming that only apostles are so gifted. And since there are no apostles today, there are no miraculous manifestations today. No apostles today? *Hmmm.* Let's listen to Paul....

Paul to the Ephesians: *"He Himself gave some to be apostles."* Let's stop there. Is Paul referring only to the twelve apostles and himself? Or were there apostles throughout church history? Paul continues, *" gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers."* These are ministry gifts. Their purpose? Paul writes: *"Till we all come.... to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of Christ."* If you agree that we have not yet attained "the stature of Christ", you must also agree the entire fivefold ministry is still in effect.

Apostles are obviously required today as much as prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. Now remember, cessationists teach only apostles heal. Since there must be apostles today.... and if apostles have the power to heal.... there must be healings today. That being so, isn't it heresy to teach otherwise?

There were and there are *"false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of*

Christ." Who and where are today's "false apostles"? H-hunters allege they are located in the charismatic/word-faith camps. To this I agree! **But they are also in the cessationists-heresy hunters camp**, perhaps in greater number.

In fact, the manifestation of the Holy Spirit **was not and are not limited to apostles**. Paul taught the Corinthians they were all gifted. (Paul: *"Distributing to each one individually as He wills.")* One of the gifts was "gifts of healings". Many today have been given this gift and don't know it and will never know it. H-hunters have damaged Christ's church with their "doctrines of demons" including their teaching that Jesus no longer does the miraculous. Sad. Very sad.

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 26)**

Paul warned the Corinthians to beware of *"deceitful workers"*. If there were deceitful workers then, there are deceitful workers now. Amen? Paul warned the elders of Ephesus, *"I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves."* If there were savage wolves then, there are savage wolves today. Amen?

Q: What are "deceitful workers"? A: Deceitful workers are "savage wolves". Q: What are "savage wolves"? A: Savage wolves are deceitful workers. Q: What do these spiritual tyrants want? A: They want "to draw away the disciples after themselves". Q: Why? A: **Prestige and money**.

Prestige. Paul to the Galatians: *"They desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in the flesh."* "They" were Jews, perhaps born-again Jews, church leadership. Their trophy was the people they conquered. Today every pulpit-person enjoys the same prestige. He is titled, envied, exalted. Little congregation, little prestige; hefty congregation, hefty prestige.

Money. Every sunday "deceitful workers" ("savage wolves") collect money from their disciples, those they have drawn away from Jesus. It was their love of money that ushered in the awful evangelical tithe. (Luke: *"The Pharisees.... were lovers of money.")*

Q: How extensive is the domination of "deceitful workers"? A: Extremely extensive. Almost every born-again christian reading these words has become a follower of one of thousands of "deceitful workers" within evangelicalism. To them I say, "You were once disciples of Jesus Christ, but no longer. You can identify the ones you follow by identifying the ones you obey. Obeying Christ is obeying His Bible; obeying christians is obeying "commandments of men". The Holy Spirit is calling you 'home', back to First Love."

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 27)**

Many (most?) heresy hunters are cessationists. Most baptists are cessationists. There are as many as 100 million cessationists burrowed deep into evangelicalism. Almost every FB friend has been influenced (contaminated?) by cessationists/heresy-hunters.

Heresy hunters are anti-charismatic, anti-pentecostal, anti-word faith. **And so am I.** I am anti-religion because "Our Father in heaven", "Christ .... head of the church", and the very "Spirit of truth" are anti-religion. The triune God is anti-pentecostalism, anti-lutheranism, anti-anglicanism, anti-judaism, anti-denominationalism, anti-evangelicalism, anti-institutionalism and every other -ism. He is anti-hierarchy, anti-diplomas and certifications, anti-appellations. I am against everything Jesus is against, everything Paul and the twelve were against, everything the New Testament is against.

I am pro-Jesus, pro-Father, pro-Holy Spirit. I am pro-NT teachings. I am pro-New Covenant, pro-Great Commission, pro-"one another" ministry, pro-gifts of the Spirit, pro-"signs and wonders", pro-revival, pro-tongues.

Lord Jesus doesn't want His people to be anything more or anything less than what He has made them to be.... Blood-washed "heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ". Jesus wants His people to hate what He hates and love what He loves.

The Holy Spirit is calling those who have strayed to repent of betrayal to the very "Lord of lords and King of kings", to return to "first love", to give unfettered devotion to New Testament teachings. Jesus wants you to enjoy Him. To enjoy Jesus, you must obey Jesus. Only the obedient can abide in Him. Jesus: *"If you love Me, keep **My** commandments."*

The wise and faithful obey Jesus, the foolish and unfaithful obey others.

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 28)**

You are becoming. You are not stagnate, but changing. You are not the person you were and not the person you will be. We are all advancing or reversing, hardening or mellowing, expanding or shrinking. We are travelling uphill or downhill, never horizontally. Most important, you are becoming either relationally wealthier in Christ or poorer in Christ.

You are who you are, to a large degree, because of the assembly you have attached yourselves to. As the catholic became catholic by attending a catholic church, you became an evangelical by attending an evangelical church. Within evangelicalism there are many sub-religions. All religions are harmful, but not equally harmful. Cessationism and calvinism are perhaps the most pernicious.... and the least targeted by heresy hunters.

By the grace of God, by His "tender mercies", you can *un*-become what you have become. You can regain what your betrayal has cost you. Your remedy, your only remedy, is Jesus Christ.

Jesus: *"Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord' and not do the things which I say?"* Only the obedient have the right to call the Lord "Lord". To become eternally wealthier you must give yourself over to His will, His ways, His words (just as you have given yourself over to the will, the ways, the words of evangelicalism). The sayings of Jesus must reign supreme; the sayings of religionists must be dethroned.

The New Testament introduces us to an awesome New Covenant, paid for by the sacrificial "Lamb of God". NT teachings are contrary to every religion religionists have invented (with the help of you-know-who). So.... you have a decision to make. Will you be a NT christian or a modernized-culturalized christian? Thoroughly understand that your tomorrow is being determined by today's choices. Thoroughly understand that the richness of your *endless eternity* is being determined by your day-by-day decisions.

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 29)**

A most interesting roundtable debate between two cessationalists and two continuationists took place a while ago. For those who don't know, a continuationalist is one who believes that the gifts and supernatural happenings recorded in the New Testament are continuing to this day. (Google roundtable debate, Michael Brown.) A few observations regarding this debate....

*** The two cessationists – Justin and Jim – and the two continuationalists – Sam and Michael – represent *thousands* of pastors within evangelicalism. An inconvenient reality: Both parties can be doctrinally mistaken, but both can't be doctrinally correct. Amen? At least one party is teaching heresy. We must therefore conclude that *thousands* of pastors are teaching heresy! AND we must conclude that *millions* of evangelicals have been coerced into subsidizing pastors – via a substantial salary – *to teach heresy!*

*** At least one of the two parties are not lead by the Holy Spirit. Jesus taught us, *"He will guide you into all truth."* Since the Holy Spirit never leads into *un*truth, at least one of these two parties AND the thousands of pastors they represent AND the millions that have given themselves over to their false teachings *cannot* be guided by the Holy Spirit. Can you see that?

*** All four brothers are practiced preachers, authors and highly credentialed. Since at least two are in serious error, and since both parties have written volumes of material contrary to each other, shouldn't that erase any trust you may have in preachers, writers and credentials?

*** Each of the four can really impress their various audiences because there is nobody challenging them. (We are all good at what we do for a living.) But their credibility is greatly reduced in a debate. On sunday mornings (etcetera) there is no debate. You are hearing one man's opinion, which may be excellent or may be awful. So... it is your place to verify, to challenge. That's what a disciple of Jesus does. Jesus calls us to be childlike, not childish.

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 30)**

Heresy hunters don't expose all heresies. There are some heresies considered untouchable, such as....

*** **The evangelical tithe** (the surrendering of 10% of one's earning to one's home church). This heresy robs Christ Great Commission – resulting in the eternal damnation of millions – yet is

untouchable. Why? Because it is not only predominant in the charismatic camp they so rigorously oppose, but in their own camp. Many h-hunters are salaried, and their salaries are funded by the evangelical tithe. This awful tithe pays their travelling expenses, vacations, babysitters, a christmas tree, an enviable wardrobe, birthday gifts and many etceteras. Did Jesus endorse this tithe? No! Did Paul? No! Peter, James or John? No! *Anybody* in the entire Bible? No! No, no, no, no!

*** **Church hierarchy.** The words of Jesus, *"All of you are equal as brothers and sisters"*(NLT) mean nothing to h-hunters even though their church structure mimics the charismatic and word-faith churches they disparage. Let's look at it. Can their senior pastor be found anywhere in the Bible they claim to revere? No! What about associate or youth or visitation pastors? No! Board of elders? No! Appellations and salaries? No! No, no, no, no! One another ministry, so prevalent throughout the New Testament, is almost entirely absent in h-hunter's spiritual backyard. One another ministry is not the evangelical way, but it is the NT way. (Paul: *"Admonish one another.... serve one another.... bear one another's burdens.... speaking to one another.... submitting to one another.... comfort one another.... edify one another.")* So why aren't h-hunters confronting *these* issues with equal fury?

*** **Calvinism.** Many h-hunters, not all, are calvinists, those who believe in divine predestination (God determines who is to be saved and who is to be damned). This is beyond heretical; it is insanity! Yet h-hunters who don't believe this absurdity don't publicly condemn those who do. Selective furor?

These are the people who made inroads into many FB friends!

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 31)**

Josh, a cessationist: "The *God-told-me* language should cease." Adversely, I have learned to do nothing (of serious consequence) except what Jesus, through His Holy Spirit, directs me to do. If the Holy Spirit spoke to others, why wouldn't He speak to me (and you)? He spoke to David. *("The Holy Spirit spoke.... by the mouth of David")*, Isaiah *("The Holy Spirit spoke.... through Isaiah")*, Phillip *("The Spirit said to Phillip....")*, Peter *("The Spirit said to him"),* Paul *("Thus says the Holy Spirit....")* and others.

Cessationists speak much of **the sufficiency of Scripture**. Their reasoning: "We don't need to be directed personally by the Holy Spirit because we now have the full Bible, Old Testament and New." In reality, it is impossible for a cessationist to believe in (trust, rely on) the Bible. Let's consider Josh....

1) Josh claims to believe in **the sufficiency of Scripture**.... 2) Scripture tells Josh the Holy Spirit speaks to individuals..... 3) yet Josh concludes the Holy Spirit no longer speaks to individuals. Isn't that weird? How can he defend his confidence in **the sufficiency of Scripture**? He uses this same twisted reasoning to dismiss healing, prophecy, "signs and wonders", tongues, etcetera. *Cessationists obey the Bible by disobeying the Bible!*

My first *God-told-me* assignment was three words (not audible yet unmistakable), "Write a book". So.... I wrote a book, "A Catholic No More". And then what did I do? Nothing. I was like the private on standby, waiting on his superior, available and prepared to respond to any order. Until my

"Commander-in-Chief" (the Lord Jesus) gave me another assignment I did nothing. I was on standby. That's how we are to live out our christianity, being on standby, alert and available. (Jesus: *"Abide in Me.")*

Josh (and his many etceteras) know no such life. Instead of leaning on "the Spirit of truth" they rely on god-reason and god-intellect. Rationalism, not Jesus and the Holy Spirit, reigns supreme. Question to my FB friends: Who or what reigns supreme in your christianity? Not sure? Ask Jesus.

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 32)**

Paul to the Ephesians (Amp): *"Be filled with the Spirit and constantly guided by Him."* Do you think that Jesus, "the head of the church", wants the entirety of His church to "Be filled with the Spirit and constantly guided by Him"? If so, you must conclude that Jesus wants *you* to "Be filled with the Spirit and constantly guided by Him". Amen?

The christian filled with the Holy Spirit is rare. We can ascertain the extent of the Spirit within ourselves by examining the fruit of our christianity. (Paul: *"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.")* And there are other indicators. Those having much of the Holy Spirit exalt Jesus (Jesus: *"He will glorify Me")*, abide in Jesus (Jesus: *"Abide in Me")*, obey Jesus (Jesus: *"Go into all the world and preach the gospel")*, pursue Jesus (Paul: *"That I may know Him Spirit and constantly guided by Him" your heart was filled with and guided by credentialed religionists.*

Brutal reality: Evangelicals, especially h-hunters, do not and will not point you back to your "first love". Equally brutal reality: They do not want you to "Be filled with the Spirit and constantly guided by Him". They want you to submit to them, to be a brick in their edifice, a feather in their cap.

To be a soul-winner, to fulfill your calling, to give a good account to Judge Jesus, you must "Be filled with the Spirit and constantly guided by Him". This won't be easy, but it is possible. Lord Jesus will help you.

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 33)**

Because God is omnipresent, He is as present to the pagan as He is to His born-again children. But not so relationally. Relationally, God is more distant from the heathen than the sun is from the moon. Adversely, within God's family He is relationally attached to each of His kids. But not ***equally*** attached. Relationally, we are serving either a ***nearby*** Jesus or a ***f*araway** Jesus. It is my contention that cessationists and calvinists, who have made inroads into FB friends, serve a ***faraway*** Jesus. My rationale is simple....

Christians who are tightly bonded to Jesus are taught by Jesus. How? By the very "Spirit of truth".

Jesus has never taught His disciples that 1) He ceased doing to and through His church what He once did (cessationism), and 2) He predetermines who is to be rescued and who is to be damned (calvinism).

Can you imagine a worshipper of Christ – one who maintains Jesus as "first love", one who "dwells in the secret place of the Most High", leans on, trusts in, adheres to Jesus – falling into debilitating heresy? Is that possible?

We all have as much of Jesus as we want to have. Jesus abides in us to the degree we have chosen to abide in Him. Strength of relationship is determined by us, not Him. Those serving a relationally ***faraway*** Jesus will be severely disappointed at Christ's judgement seat; they will "suffer loss", their rewards minimal. Those serving a ***nearby*** Jesus will be rejoicing, their rewards will be abundant.

Christians bonded to any religion, most certainly including evangelicalism, serve a ***faraway*** Jesus. Those accumulating things and more things are serving a ***faraway*** Jesus. (Jesus: *"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth").* But there is good news....

Anyone serving a ***faraway*** Jesus can reverse his/her course at will. A ***nearby*** Jesus is available to anyone humble enough to repent and courageous enough to resist the pull of debilitating, culturalized christianity.

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 34)**

Heresy Hunters hate the emotional and the unusual. Though they fiercely defend 'the sufficiency of Scripture', Scripture is loaded with emotion and unusual happenings. Can you see the irony? First we look at *emotion*.....

"Jesus wept" before raising Lazarus from the dead, and He wept over Jerusalem. The Old Testament tells us that David wept, as did Jacob, Joseph, Benjamin and many others. The New Testament reveals Peter weeping, as did John, Mary Magdalene, and others. The elders from Ephesus "wept freely and fell on Paul's neck and kissed him." Paul to the Romans: "Weep with those who weep." **We should never be ashamed of tears.**

Jesus was often angry, especially against religionists. (Jesus: *"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees hypocrites!")* He made a whip and drove the crooked money changers out of the temple. *("You have made it a den of thieves.")* And listen to Paul: *"Who has bewitched you?".... "You yourselves do wrong and cheat".... "Do you despise the house of God and shame those who have nothing?"* There is something wrong with the evangelical who routinely witnesses spiritual corruption but is never outraged.

Now, second, the unusual. The Old Testament speaks of the burning bush.... a talking donkey.... the bronze serpent on a pole.... the cloud by day and the fire by night.... and many, many etceteras. The New Testament speaks of the multiplication of loaves and fishes, Jesus making clay with spit....

"divided tongues, as of fire".... "signs and wonders".... four daughters who prophesied.... the appearance of Jesus on the road to Damascus and on the island of Patmos.... and many, many etceteras.

Cessationists (most heresy hunters are cessationists) love sameness.... same gathering of the same people at the same building at the same time. Same salaried preacher, same program, same collection of tithes and offerings. Same, same, same.

HERESY HUNTERS vs THE HOLY SPIRIT **(# 35)**

35 is my last posting of "Heresy Hunters vs the Holy Spirit". A heresy hunter is one consumed with hunting down heresies rather than consumed with "Jesus Christ and Him crucified". For several years I have recognized their nasty influence on various FB friends, but I did not retaliate. Why? Because it was none of my business. Why? Because Jesus never made it my business. And then He did. Thus my 35 postings.

The NT guides us generally and Jesus, through His Holy Spirit, directs us specifically. H-hunters have distanced themselves from the Holy Spirit. That's how the cessationist became a cessationist, the h-hunter a h-hunter. And now these militants are after you. They not only want to separate you from the manifestations of the Spirit, but from the "Spirit of truth" Himself. This is an urgent matter! You ***need*** the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus said, *"He will glorify Me."* You cannot glorify Jesus without the Holy Spirit! You need the Holy Spirit and you need *to know* you need Him.

Paul: *"He who is spiritual judges all things."* Paul (Amp): *"Do you not judge those who are within the church ?"* Paul: *"Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge."* The immature don't judge. They are easily impressed by credentials, by prominence, by stature. The mature take responsibility for their spiritual development. They listen to both sides of contentious doctrines and make a judgement.

You who have been influenced by h-hunters owe it to yourselves to give equal audience to the non-cessationists (continualists) they castigate. For starters google ***Michael L. Brown, Line of Fire***. Will you do that?

More important, memorize and give yourself over to John 15:4, 5. Will you do that? And then reverently sign the last page of the Bible as a declaration before "the true vine" (Jesus: *"I am the true vine")* that you will always choose His words over the many "commandments of men" plaguing His church. One more thing: ***I (most sincerely) wish you well!***