

# PERFECT MAN

A Newsletter Designed to Communicate Truth for Perfection of the Total Man—Spirit, Soul and Body

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## Spiritual Refreshment - "Recognizing the Spirit of Anti-Christ"

By Booker Dismuke

*"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby (or by this we can) know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is NOT OF GOD: and this is that spirit of antichrist; whereof ye have heard that it should come and even now already is it in the world." 1 John 4:1-3*

Already in the world? As a matter of fact they're all over the place! You will see them at the entrance of shopping malls, on the streets, knocking on doors on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Although this spirit of antichrist raises its voice in so many places, isn't it interesting how this voice always points *away* from Jesus Christ rather than pointing *to* Him?

Have you noticed whenever you are confronted by this spirit, the arguments always tend to focus on who Jesus is, (the deity of Christ) or from their point of view who He is NOT. They even discredit Jesus in the name they call themselves.

Without controversy, Jesus made it very clear while speaking to His disciples just before His ascension into the heavens. *"But ye shall receive power after that the Holy*

*Ghost has come upon you and ye shall BE WITNESSES UNTO ME, both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."* Acts 1:8.

That simply means every true ministry can (and will) point in only one direction and to one person—Jesus Christ.

It is very important that the witnesses of Jesus Christ recognize the spirit of antichrist as such. This will preclude any debate on the part of Christ's followers. Understanding that these are false witnesses, as well as antichrist, will prevent any meaningless encounter and will help you to construct a base from which you can be truly helpful in bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ to them.

These are false prophets and not true witnesses because it is impossible to be a witness unto Jesus without having His Spirit on the inside. *"But you shall receive power,"* refers to the believer being filled with the same Spirit with whom Jesus was filled. This is the only way to witness or demonstrate the same power.

Jesus told His disciples how important having His Spirit in them was, and that when the Spirit of truth is come He (the Spirit of Truth) would guide them into all truth (Jesus). Jesus has said in His word, *"I am the Truth."* It is this truth of Jesus into which the Spirit guides us. The Holy Spirit was not

just for the early Church or the early disciples of Jesus. This great Holy Spirit was given and must be received by anyone who says, *"I am a believer of Jesus Christ."*

On the day of Pentecost after the great outpouring of God's Spirit; Peter stood up and preached to about three thousand people. In his conclusion he said *"...the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off even as many as the Lord our God shall call."* Acts 2:38-39.

The brother to our Lord, the Apostle Jude, said the same thing. *"...we should earnestly contend*

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