



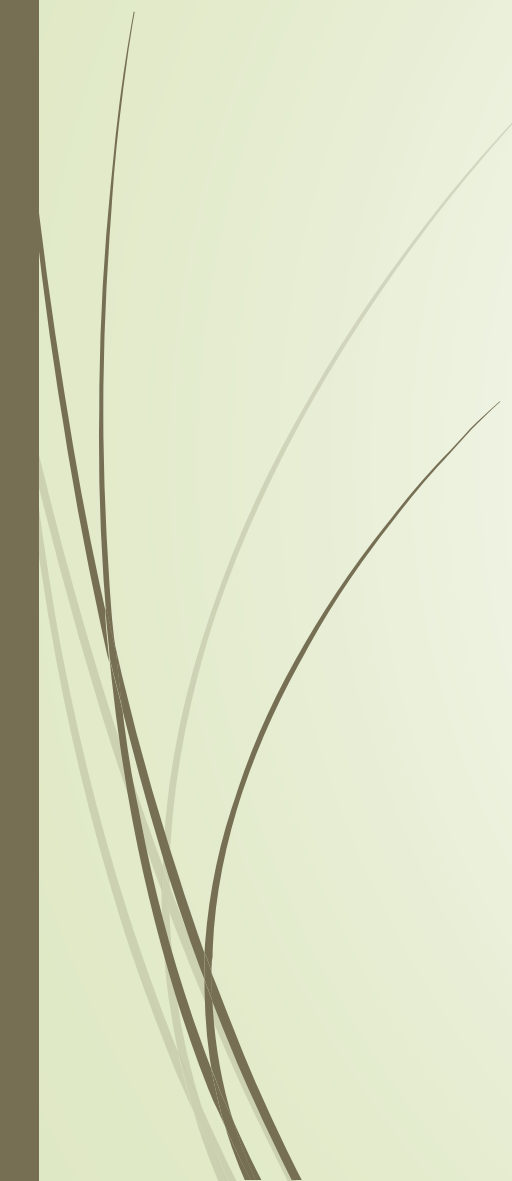
Understanding The Manifest Presence of God

John 14:18-21

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Introduction

- This series is essential for us to grasp a greater understanding of how God manifest Himself to us!!
 - In John 14:18-21 we discover an important dialogue from Jesus about the future Indwelling of the Holy Spirit to His followers.
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Introduction

- First we must understand some vital biblical truths:
 - The Holy Spirit is the personal presence of Christ operating in the life of the Believer
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Understanding verse 18 of John chapter 14

- The word comfortless in the Greek literally means (orphanous): The word means to be orphaned, to be without parental help, to be helpless. Jesus is saying in verse 18 that I will not leave you without parental help to struggle through the trials of life alone. God is our Agape Father and He has sent us the Holy Spirit to lead guide and direct us into all truth.

Quench Not the Holy Spirit

Now the Holy Spirit can only lead us if we submit to His will and obey the Word of God. This is the key to experiencing the Manifest Presence of God



The Difference between the manifest presence of the Holy Spirit and God's Omnipresence

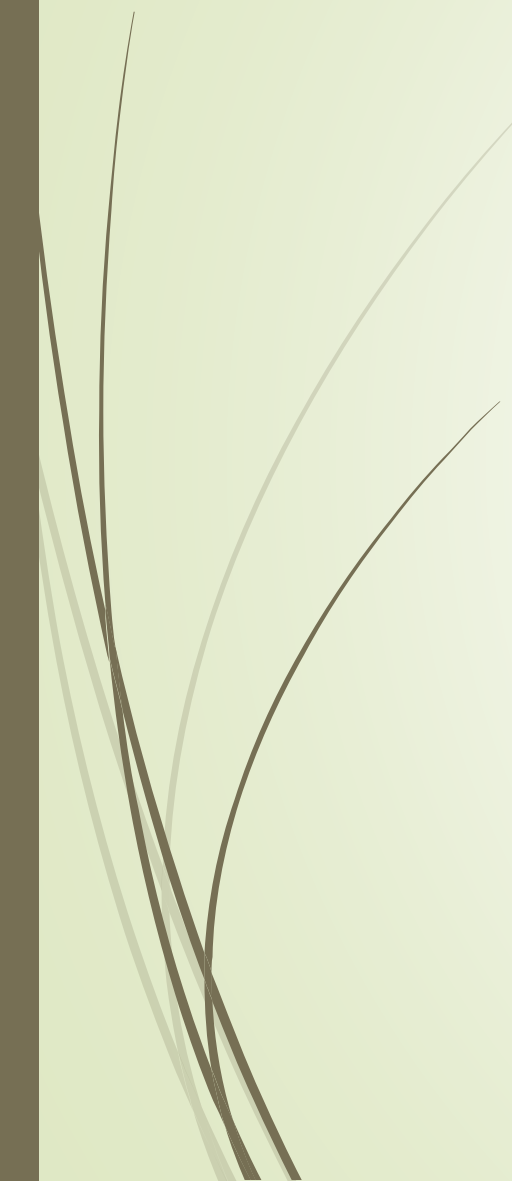
- God's omnipresence is His attribute of being everywhere at once. He is omnipresent even when we do not experience His presence, He is here, even if we do not recognize Him. God's manifest presence is, of course, His presence made manifest--the fact that He is with us is made clear and convincing.

God's Omnipresence vs. His Manifest Presence

- ➔ God's omnipresence applies to each Person in the Trinity: The Father (Isaiah 66:1), The Son (John 1:48), and the Holy Spirit (Psalm 139:7-8). The fact that God is omnipresent may or may not result in a special experience on our part. However, God's manifest presence is the result of His interaction with us overtly and unmistakably. It is then we experience God.




God's Manifest Presence to Moses in the Burning Bush

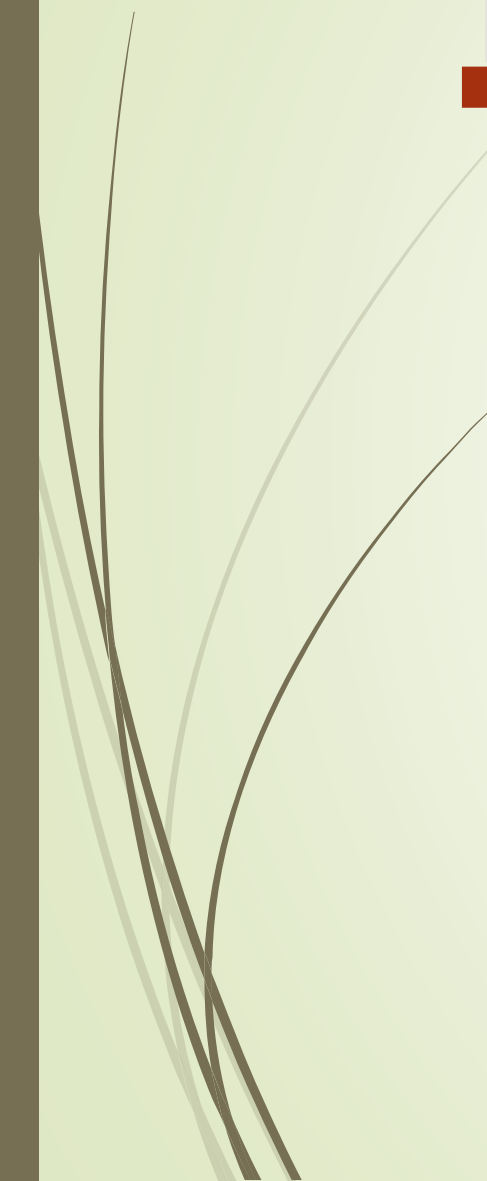
- When we examine Exodus 3:1 we see that God in this case Manifest His presence to Moses in the burning bush on the far side of mountain wilderness near Mount Horeb. God chose to manifest Himself. Moses could not mistake the presence of God in this encounter.
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What most people experience of God

- Theologically, we understand that God is omnipresent, but that fact is not readily discerned with the senses. It is a reality, but that reality may not seem relevant to the majority of people on the planet who have no sense of His presence. They feel He is distant, not close, and that feeling becomes their perceived reality.



How We can Experience God's Manifest Presence

- Believers always have the Holy Spirit with them. The Bible teaches the indwelling of the Spirit. But the indwelling of the Spirit is not the same as the Spirit's manifest presence. The Spirit manifest presence is where God makes himself known to us. This is the time where the indwelling spirit visits the believer in a special, manifest way.
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How We can Experience God's Manifest Presence

- ➔ He can come in a song, an encounter with a friend, a prompting to pray, a desire to study the Word, or an ineffable feeling of peace----The Spirit is not limited in how He reveals Himself to us. The point is that He makes Himself Known. He is our Comforter. "By Him we cry, "Abba, Father."

Promises Regarding the Manifest Presence of God

- God Promises to Manifest Himself to those who Trust and obey (John 14:21)
- God Promises to Manifest Himself to the Humble (Isaiah 57:15; Psalm 69:32-33; cf. Genesis 6:8-9; James 4:6).
- God Promises to Manifest Himself to Those Who Seek Him Seriously (Jeremiah 29:11-13; cf. Deuteronomy 4:29; I Chronicles 16:10-11; Psalm 34:3-9; 63:1-8)

Looking Ahead to Next Week

- We will look at some reasons for a loss of the manifest presence of God:
- Disobedience—which is sin (Isaiah 59:1-2; I Samuel 15:22-23; 16:14)...
- Defilement (Psalm 101:3; 119:37)..
- Distractions—Mary and Martha (Luke 10:38-42
- Drifting— the church at Ephesus left her first love (Revelation 2:4-5)