

SUNDAY LAW FEATURE

THE BREATH OF THE SECOND ADAM

From Eden's dust to Pentecost's fire

How the risen Son of God still breathes
life, power, and victory into surrendered hearts

CAN
CHRIST
LIVE IN YOU
TODAY?

THE WORD
IS SPIRIT
AND LIFE
John 6:63



Receive ye the
Holy Ghost
— John 20:22



The last Adam was
made a quickening spirit
— 1 Corinthians 15:45



The seed is the
word of God
— Luke 8:11



Christ the
power of God
— 1 Corinthians 1:24

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THE BREATH OF THE SECOND ADAM

From Eden's Dust to Pentecost's Fire—and the Life Christ Wants to Breathe Into
You Now

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Chapter 1: The Breath of Life

There is a line of fire running through the Bible.

It begins in dust.

It passes through a manger.

It crosses a bloody hill.

It enters an empty tomb.

It rises through the clouds.

It descends again in tongues of fire.

And it ends—not in a building, not in a denomination, not in a creed carved in stone—
but in a people alive with the life of Jesus Christ.

The first Adam received breath.

The last Adam became a quickening Spirit.

And somewhere between those two Adams lies the whole battle for the human soul.

Satan has no fear of dead religion.

He does not tremble before sermons without Christ.

He does not quake before churches filled with machinery but empty of living power.

But let the risen Son of God enter a surrendered human heart—

let the Word become living seed—

let the Spirit of Christ dwell within—

let Jesus breathe resurrection life into a man or woman—

and hell has a problem.

Because Jesus Christ is not merely a teacher of power.

He is:

“Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.”

1 Corinthians 1:24

The great question, therefore, is not merely:

Do you believe Jesus lived?

The question is:

IS THE LIVING CHRIST LIVING IN YOU?

THE FIRST BREATH

Picture Eden before death had ever stained a leaf.

No graveyards.

No hospitals.

No funeral processions.

No sound of weeping.

There lay Adam, formed from the dust of the ground.

Perfectly shaped.

Eyes formed—but seeing nothing.

Lungs formed—but drawing no breath.

A heart formed—but silent.

He possessed every structure necessary for life.

But structure was not life.

Then came the breath.

“And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.”

Genesis 2:7

The lifeless became living.

Dust stood upright.

The silent heart began beating.

Adam opened his eyes upon a world blazing with the handiwork of God.

Life had entered him.

But the tragedy of Eden was coming.

Sin entered.

Death followed.

The first Adam became the head of a dying race.

Generation followed generation.

Graves multiplied.

Kingdoms rose and vanished.

Prophets cried aloud.

Priests offered sacrifices.

And humanity waited.

For another Adam.

Chapter 2: The Second Adam

FOUR THOUSAND YEARS LATER, THE SON STOOD IN AN UPPER ROOM

Now imagine another scene.

The doors are shut.

The disciples are afraid.

Their Master had been crucified.

They had watched hope apparently bleed to death.

Then something impossible happened.

Jesus stood among them.

Alive.

Not an idea.

Not a memory.

Not religious sentiment.

The Son of God stood before them, raised from death by His God and Father.

Then the risen Christ did something that reaches backward across thousands of years toward Eden.

John records:

“And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost.”

John 20:22

Stop.

Look at the scene.

In Eden, breath entered lifeless Adam.

Now the risen Christ breathes upon His disciples.

The first creation had fallen.

A new creation was beginning.

The first Adam received life.

The last Adam had conquered death.

And Paul gives us the thunderbolt:

“The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.”

1 Corinthians 15:45

The first Adam was made alive.

The last Adam makes alive.

The first Adam received breath.

The last Adam breathes life.

The first Adam transmitted death to his fallen descendants.

The last Adam brings resurrection life to those who receive Him.

This is not a side doctrine.

This is the destination of the gospel.

BUT EVEN THE UPPER ROOM WAS NOT YET THE FULL FIRE

Jesus breathed upon them.

“Receive ye the Holy Ghost.”

Yet they were still told to wait.

Why?

Because Christ was going somewhere.

He had told them:

“Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away.”

John 16:7

Expedient.

Advantageous.

Better for you.

The disciples probably heard only one word:

Go.

Christ saw another:

Return.

They saw separation.

He saw indwelling.

They saw the visible Jesus leaving.

He saw the glorified Christ coming in power.

He would ascend.

He would be glorified.

He would minister above.

And His people would receive power from on high.

Then came ten days.

Ten days between the cloud and the fire.

Ten days of prayer.

Ten days of waiting.

Ten days of heart searching.

Then suddenly—

the house shook with heaven.

The fire fell.

Tongues like fire appeared.

The frightened became fearless.

The silent became heralds.

The weak became mighty witnesses.

The same Peter who had trembled before a servant girl now stood before multitudes and preached Christ.

What changed?

Not Peter's education.

Not his personality.

Not Rome.

Not Jerusalem.

The difference was divine power.

The living Christ was working through His people by the Spirit.

The future had arrived.

Chapter 3: The Living Word

THE WORD IS NOT DEAD INK—IT IS SEED

Jesus Himself explained how this life enters us.

He told the parable of the sower, and then stripped away every mystery:

“Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.”

Luke 8:11

There it is.

The seed.

The Word.

God plants His Word in the human heart.

And what does seed do?

It enters unseen.

It takes root.

It grows.

It reproduces the life contained within it.

An acorn does not grow into a rose.

A wheat seed does not produce grapes.

The life inside the seed determines the fruit.

And Jesus said:

“The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.”

John 6:63

The Word is seed.

His words are spirit.

His words are life.

Do you see the chain?

Seed.

Word.

Spirit.

Life.

The Word of Christ enters the surrendered heart and begins producing the character of Christ.

This is why Satan has fought the Word.

This is why he corrupts it.

Distracts from it.

Makes men too busy to read it.

Turns Christianity into entertainment.

Anything—

anything—

to keep the seed out of the soil.

Because once the living Word takes root, something begins growing that Satan cannot control.

HIS SEED REMAINETH IN HIM

John writes words that should make every lukewarm Christian stop breathing for a moment:

“Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.”

1 John 3:9

His seed.

What is the seed?

Jesus told us:

“The seed is the word of God.”

Luke 8:11

The Word enters.

The Word remains.

The life of Christ works within.

This does not describe human flesh becoming naturally incapable of temptation. It describes the governing principle of the new birth: the life God plants does not produce rebellion against God.

The great future of the gospel is not endless slavery to sin while merely claiming forgiveness.

The promise is transformation.

The law that once confronted you from outside becomes loved within.

The commandments cease to be merely tablets before you.

The will of God is planted in the heart.

The quickening life of Christ begins doing what human strength could never accomplish.

And this is why Satan would gladly give you religion without Christ.

Because a doctrine cannot conquer your temper.

A church membership cannot crucify pride.

A committee cannot cleanse the heart.

An institution cannot breathe resurrection life into you.

You need Jesus.

Not merely His biography.

Not merely His photograph on a children's Bible.

Not merely His name attached to a denomination.

The living Son of God.

"TO WHOM SHALL WE GO?"

There came a moment when many abandoned Jesus.

The teaching was too hard.

The crowd began disappearing.

Then Jesus looked at the twelve and asked:

"Will ye also go away?"

Peter answered:

"Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life."

John 6:67–68

Where else are you going?

Who else has the words of eternal life?

Politics?

No.

Philosophy?

No.

Human psychology?

No.

Religious tradition?

No.

The state?

No.

The institution?

No.

Peter understood something that Babylon forever forgets.

There is nowhere else to go.

Jesus possesses the words of eternal life.

And He has given those words to us.

The Word that created worlds speaks into the human soul.

The seed enters.

The Spirit gives life.

Christ begins living in the believer.

That is Christianity.

Everything else is scaffolding.

Chapter 4: Christ Within

THE GREAT ROBBERY OF THE LAST DAYS

Here is Satan's masterpiece.

He cannot erase Jesus from history.

So he is content to leave Him there.

Two thousand years away.

Safely distant.

A baby in Bethlehem.

A corpse on Calvary.

A figure ascending into clouds.

Anything—

so long as He is not living in you now.

Satan does not mind a Christ on a necklace nearly as much as he fears Christ in the heart.

He can tolerate people singing about resurrection while living powerless lives.

He can endure sermons about Pentecost from pulpits where no one expects Pentecostal transformation.

But let men discover:

“Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.”

Romans 8:9

And then:

“And if Christ be in you...”

Romans 8:10

And suddenly the theft is exposed.

The question of the Spirit is not an abstract game.

It is about the presence of Christ.

Paul says:

Spirit of God.

Spirit of Christ.

Christ in you.

The enemy's strategy is simple:

Keep Christ outside.

Keep the church busy.

Keep the believer powerless.

Keep sin undefeated.

Keep religion respectable.

But never let the quickening Spirit breathe life into the dead bones.

Because when Christ enters, chains begin breaking.

Chapter 5: The Promise of Power

WHAT SHOULD WE ASK FOR?

Jesus said:

“If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.”

John 14:14

Then ask.

But what?

More money?

More comfort?

A bigger house?

A smoother road?

Or do we understand what heaven is waiting to give?

Jesus said:

“If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?”

Luke 11:13

The Father is willing to give.

The question is whether we are hungry enough to ask.

Ask for the Spirit of Christ.

Ask for the life of the risen Saviour.

Ask for the wisdom of God.

Ask for the power of God.

Because:

“Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.”

1 Corinthians 1:24

What if the greatest gift you could ask from heaven was not a thing?

What if it was Christ Himself dwelling in you by His Spirit?

The answer to your weakness is not merely more willpower.

The answer is the power of God.

The answer to your foolishness is not merely more information.

The answer is the wisdom of God.

And Christ is both.

THE FUTURE GOD HAS PREPARED IS BIGGER THAN YOUR PRESENT FAILURE

Paul writes:

“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.”

1 Corinthians 2:9

Do not reduce that merely to golden streets someday.

God is preparing a people now for that kingdom.

A people who love Him.

And Jesus tells us what love looks like:

“If ye love me, keep my commandments.”

John 14:15

Again:

“If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in his love.”

John 15:10

There is the future Satan does not want you to imagine.

A people who actually obey God.

Not through self-righteous flesh.

Not through human boasting.

But because the life of Christ is working within them.

A people who can stand.

A people who will not bow.

A people who love the commandments because they love the Lawgiver.

A people whose lives become evidence that the accusations against God's government are lies.

"YE ARE MY WITNESSES"

God declared through Isaiah:

"Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me."

Isaiah 43:10

Witnesses.

Not merely talkers.

Not merely debaters.

Witnesses.

Evidence.

Lives that demonstrate something.

In the last days, God is not merely looking for people capable of arguing that His law is holy.

He seeks people who will allow His Son to live in them so completely that obedience becomes a living testimony.

The greatest argument for the power of Christ is a transformed human life.

The drunk sober.

The proud humbled.

The angry made gentle.

The selfish made generous.

The sinful made obedient.

There stands the witness.

Not:

“Look what I accomplished.”

“Look what Christ can do.”

Chapter 6: The High Priest and the Fire

THE HIGH PRIEST ABOVE—THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST WITHIN

The early Advent believers came to understand the 1844 disappointment through the doctrine of the heavenly sanctuary, concluding that Christ had entered the final phase of His high-priestly ministry in the Most Holy Place. That is the historic Adventist sanctuary understanding, and Ellen White's Early Writings describes Christ's movement into the Most Holy Place in connection with 1844.

So lift your eyes.

Christ is not idle.

And yet His people are not abandoned below.

The wonderful gospel mystery is not Christ in heaven or Christ with His people.

It is the heavenly High Priest ministering for His people while His life operates within them through His Spirit.

The sanctuary message was never meant to create a distant Christ.

It directs us to the living Christ.

The One above is preparing a people below.

The One ministering before the Father is seeking to reproduce His character in His children.

The judgment hour is not a call to despair.

It is a call to surrender.

Because you are not being asked to manufacture perfection from dead human flesh.

You are being invited to receive life from the Second Adam.

WHAT IF YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVED THE PROMISE?

Imagine tomorrow morning.

You wake up.

The old temptation returns.

But this time your first thought is not:

“I must beat this.”

It is:

“Jesus, live Your life in me.”

Someone insults you.

The old anger rises.

But you stop.

“Lord Jesus, breathe again.”

Fear knocks at the door.

“Christ, You are the power of God.”

Confusion comes.

“Christ, You are the wisdom of God.”

The Word you planted yesterday suddenly rises in your mind.

The seed is alive.

The Spirit brings the words of Jesus back to you.

You choose obedience.

Then again tomorrow.

And again.

Until the world begins seeing less of you and more of Him.

This is the future.

Not pretending temptation does not exist.

Victory in the presence of temptation.

Not worshiping your willpower.

Depending upon His life.

Not merely surviving until Jesus returns.

Becoming ready for Him.

THE FIRE IS STILL AVAILABLE

At Pentecost, tongues like fire appeared.

But Jeremiah explains something about God's Word:

"Is not my word like as a fire? saith the Lord."

Jeremiah 23:29

Fire.

The Word is fire.

The Word is seed.

The words are spirit.

The words are life.

Put the pieces together.

The fire of God is not mere emotional excitement.

It is truth alive.

The Word burning in the heart.

The Spirit of Christ making His words living realities.

Sin exposed.

Pride consumed.

Darkness driven out.

A human life set ablaze with holy purpose.

We do not need another generation of Christians warmed by the ashes of somebody else's revival.

We need fire.

Not fanaticism.

Not noise.

Not emotional manipulation.

The fire of the living Word.

Christ within.

Truth burning so brightly that compromise cannot survive.

Chapter 7: The Call to Surrender

THE SECOND ADAM STILL BREATHES LIFE

Return now to that upper room.

Jesus stands before the disciples.

The scars are visible.

Death has been conquered.

He breathes.

“Receive ye the Holy Ghost.”

That moment has not lost its meaning.

Christ is still the life-giver.

The Second Adam still quickens.

The Word still lives.

The seed still grows.

The fire still burns.

The Father still gives His Spirit to those who ask.

The question is no longer whether God is willing.

The question is:

ARE YOU WILLING TO SURRENDER?

Will you kneel?

Will you stop bargaining with the sins that crucified Christ?

Will you stop asking Jesus to bless the throne you refuse to leave?

Will you finally say:

“Take it all”?

My pride.

My anger.

My lust.

My ambition.

My reputation.

My plans.

My secret idols.

My right to myself.

Everything.

COME TO THE FEET OF JESUS

Peter was right.

“Lord, to whom shall we go?”

Where will you go?

There is nowhere else.

You can wander through religion for fifty years and remain empty.

Or you can fall at the feet of Jesus today.

You can ask the Father for the gift heaven longs to give.

Not merely gifts.

The Giver.

Not merely strength.

The One who is the power of God.

Not merely wisdom.

The One who is the wisdom of God.

Not merely eternal life someday.

The One who possesses the words of eternal life now.

Pray:

Father, I come to You in the name of Your Son.

I have no life in myself.

I cannot conquer sin by my own power.

I cannot cleanse my own heart.

I surrender myself to You.

Give me the Spirit of Your Son.

Let the risen Christ live in me.

Plant Your Word deeply within my heart.

Let Your seed remain in me.

Burn away everything that is unlike Jesus.

Make me a witness.

Make me ready to stand.

Teach me to keep Your commandments because I love Your Son.

Breathe into me the life of the Second Adam.

And let it no longer be I who rule this life—

but Christ in me, the hope of glory.

Then rise.

Open the Word.

Plant the seed.

Ask again.

Surrender again.

Walk.

Obey.

Believe.

Because the future Christ purchased for you is not a life of permanent defeat.

It is not dead religion.

It is not an empty upper room.

The cloud has received Him.

The promise remains below.

The Father still gives.

The Word is still seed.

The Word is still fire.

The last Adam is still the quickening Spirit.

And Christ still desires to live in His people.

The first Adam received the breath of life.

The Second Adam breathes eternal life into the surrendered soul.

And when the living Christ fills His people—

the fearful become bold.

the weak become strong.

the bound become free.

the dead become alive.

and ordinary human beings become witnesses that the Son of God is still alive.

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