

**“THE GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST** quickens all the intellectual faculties, increases, enlarges, expands, and purifies all the natural passions and affections, and adapts them, by the gift of wisdom, to their lawful use. **It inspires**, develops, cultivates, and matures all the fine-toned sympathies, joys, tastes, kindred feelings, and affections of our nature. **It inspires** virtue, kindness, goodness, tenderness, gentleness, and charity. **It develops** beauty of person, form and features. **It tends** to health, vigor, animation, and social feeling. **It invigorates** all the faculties of the physical and intellectual man. **It strengthens** and gives tone to the nerves. In short, **it is**, as it were, marrow to the bone, joy to the heart, light to the eyes, music to the ears, and life to the whole being.”

(Parley P. Pratt, *Key to the Science of Theology* [1978], 61)

“The greatest and most important talent or capacity that any of the spirit children of the Father could gain is the talent of spirituality. Most of those who gained this talent were chosen, before they were born, to come to earth as members of the house of Israel. . . . Though all mankind may be saved by obedience, some find it easier to believe and obey than others. Hence the concept, taught by Jesus, that his sheep know his voice and will not follow the dissident voices of the world” (Bruce R. McConkie, *A New Witness for the Articles of Faith* [1985], 512–13).

“Suffice it to say that true greatness, from an eternal standpoint, is measured not in worldly station nor in ecclesiastical office, but in the possession of the gifts of the Spirit and in the enjoyment of the things of God” (Bruce R. McConkie, *The Promised Messiah* [1978], 574–5).

“We have learned that the greatest gift God has given to us, and, indeed, the greatest gift any of His children ever have or will enjoy, upon this earth, is the companionship of the Holy Ghost. We have learned from contact with Him, from association with Him, that real inspiration and real power are had in the companionship of the Holy Ghost” (Melvin J. Ballard, in Conference Report, Apr. 1910, 41).

“Knowledge of ‘the only true God, and Jesus Christ’ (John 17:3) is the most important knowledge in the universe; it is the knowledge without which the Prophet Joseph Smith said no man could be saved” (Marion G. Romney, in Conference Report, Oct. 1981, 18; or *Ensign*, Nov. 1981, 14).

“Salvation cannot come without revelation. . . .

“No man can receive the Holy Ghost without receiving revelations. The Holy Ghost is a revelator” (Joseph Smith, *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, 160, 328).

The paradigm below is designed to show the difference between operating with just the LIGHT OF CHRIST and working with the added power of the HOLY GHOST. It is the Holy Ghost which is the difference and which governs and gives validity to the work of the kingdom. It is not enough to operate with even a superior level of the Light of Christ, with which all men are born. The great thing which sets the Church apart from any other enterprise upon the earth is this: the HOLY GHOST. If we have the Holy Ghost and little else in the way of degrees and erudition, and skill and know-how, then we have enough, for then the Lord is doing the work through us. If, on the other hand, we have everything else going for us *but* the Holy Ghost, we really do not have what it will take to bring this work to its destined conclusion. It is the Holy Ghost which matters, and which comes through the Melchizedek Priesthood. That is where the power to bless and change lives really lies. The power of the Holy Ghost can be felt by anyone without an ordinance. But to keep that influence for a lifetime requires the laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost. It is the Book of Mormon which first introduces people to this higher power of the Holy Ghost. And that power will not linger with them unless they take the steps necessary to obtain the gift itself: the constant companion, so that they can then work out their salvation with fear and trembling before the Lord. The Light of Christ is an "IT", the Holy Ghost is a "HE", and to receive him is to be back in the presence of God and to have overcome the Fall, because the Holy Ghost is a member of the Godhead, working for the Father and the Son.



Now we see the great importance of the Sacrament; because no man can keep the Holy Ghost in his life constantly - such is the nature of this fallen world and all its constraints. But there is a place to go to renew the gift: "that they may always have his Spirit [the Holy Ghost] to be with them".

**IT**  
 \*strives  
 \*persists

**HE**  
 \*will not strive  
 \*will not persist  
 \*WILL TEACH  
 \*WILL SANCTIFY  
 \*WILL JUSTIFY  
 \*WILL TESTIFY  
 \*WILL SEAL

