



Identifying the Holy Spirit

The Power of God unto Salvation

The Spirit is the Power of God

1Co 2:4-5 And my speech and my preaching *was* not with enticing words **of man's wisdom**, but in **demonstration of the Spirit and of power**: That **your faith** should not stand in **the wisdom of men**, but **in the power of God**.

From these verses we see that **“the Spirit” is “the power of God”**.

What does Ellen White say?

Mrs. White wrote

"I will not leave you comfortless; I [Jesus] **will come to you**" (John 14:18). **The divine Spirit** that the world's Redeemer promised to send **is the presence and power of God**. **He** [the divine Spirit] will not leave **His** [the divine Spirit's] people in the world destitute of **His** [the divine Spirit's] grace, to be buffeted by the enemy of God, and harassed by the oppression of the world; but **He** [the divine Spirit] **will come to them.**--Nov. 23, 1891. {YRP 39.5}

(Notice how the Bible says Jesus will come to us, but Ellen White's pronoun "He" in "He will come to them" properly refers back NOT to "the world's Redeemer" but instead to "the divine Spirit", "the presence and power of God.")

Putting some pieces in place...

- 1Co 2:5 That **your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.**
- 1Co 1:24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, **Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.**
- Gal 3:2 This only would I learn of you, **Received ye the Spirit** by the works of the law, or **by the hearing of faith?**
- Rom 10:17 So then **faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God** [a title of Christ].
- Joh 6:63 It is **the spirit that quickeneth**; the flesh profiteth nothing: **the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.**

Putting the pieces together...

Christ speaks the words. They are heard. Faith grasps what is heard and thus receives the words/Spirit of Christ. This is how faith comes to stand in the Spirit of God, the Power of God, the Wisdom of God, the Word of God, *Christ!*

The Spirit is the Power of God and is Christ. We wonder, *is the Spirit also the Father?*

The Power of God is also the Majesty on high

Luk 22:69 Hereafter shall the Son of man sit on the **right hand of the power of God.**

Heb 1:3 Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the **right hand of the Majesty on high;**

Comparing these verses, we see that “the power of God” can be identified as “the Majesty on high”, the Father.

One Spirit, One Lord, One God

Eph 4:4-6 *There is one body, and **one Spirit**, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; **One Lord**, one faith, one baptism, **One God and Father of all**, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all.*

Here we see the “three living personalities of the heavenly trio.”

Yet we have seen in Scripture that the “one Spirit” is a personality, a “power” *shared* by Christ and His Father; the Spirit is variously identified as being the Son *and* as being the Father. This is why “Spirit”, “Spirit of God”, “Spirit of Christ”, and “Christ” are seen to be interchangeable terms in Romans 8:9-10.

The Tree of Life Picturing the Heavenly Trio

The Spirit, the Power of God, the words of Jesus, IS ALSO called “**the power of God unto salvation** to every one that believeth” and “the gospel of Christ” in Romans 1:16. For humans, **salvation is synonymous with the gift of eternal life**. This explains why Jesus’ words “are Spirit, **and they are life**” (Jn 6:63)!

Now we ask, *where in the Tree of Life is eternal life bestowed?*
(Hint: the fruit imparts eternal life to those who eat.)

FRUIT

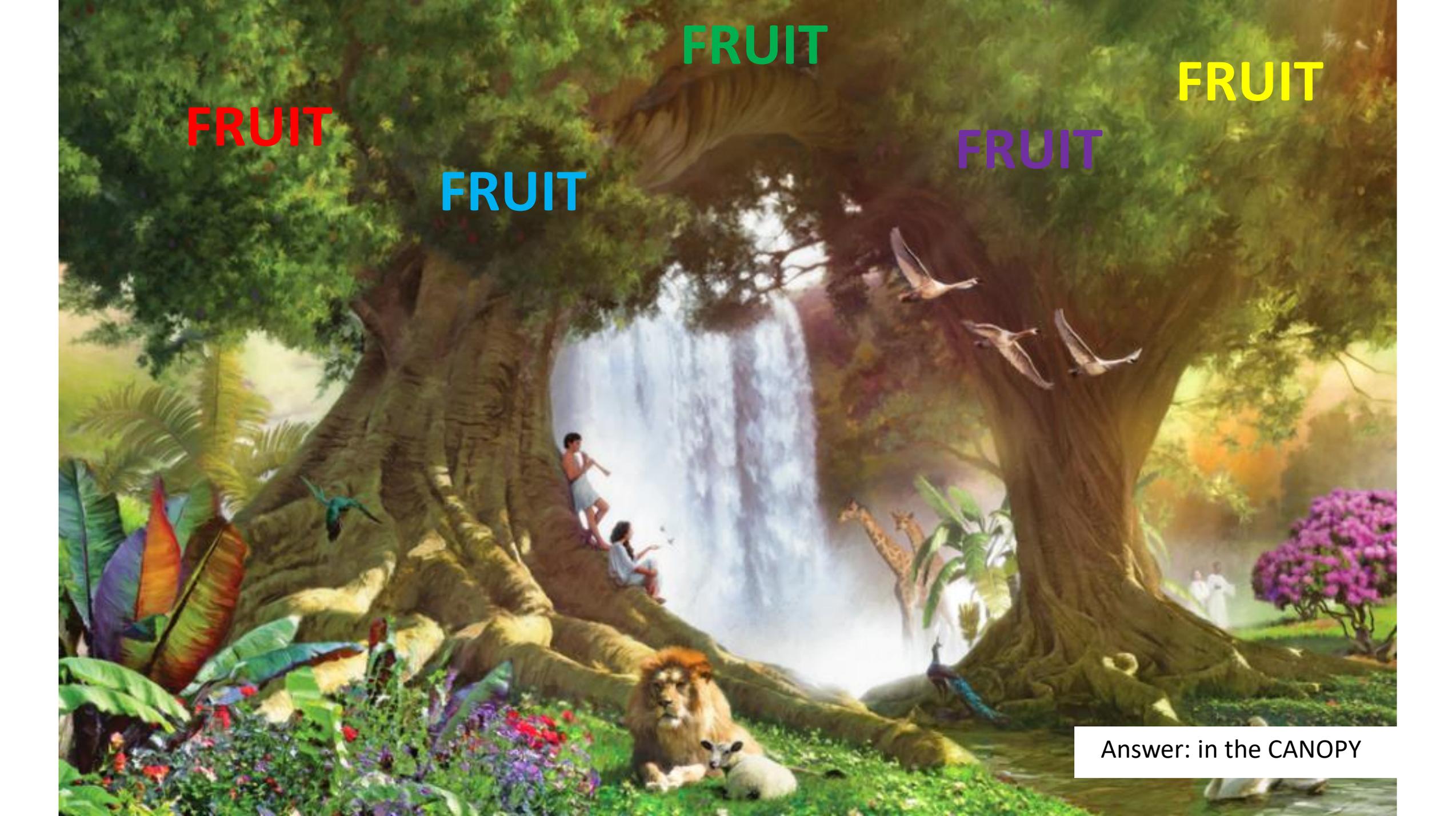
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FRUIT

Answer: in the CANOPY



Ellen White Saw the Tree of Life

Here we saw the tree of life and the throne of God. Out of the throne came a pure river of water, and on either side of the river was the tree of life. **On one side of the river was a trunk of a tree, and a trunk on the other side of the river, both of pure, transparent gold. At first I thought I saw two trees. I looked again, and saw that they were united at the top in one tree.** So it was the tree of life on either side of the river of life. Its branches bowed to the place where we stood, and the fruit was glorious; it looked like gold mixed with silver. {EW 17.1}

SHARED CANOPY

TRUNK
1

TRUNK
2

**A HEAVENLY TRIO: TWO TRUNKS
SHARING ONE, UNITED CANOPY!**



Ellen White Also Saw the Throne of God

Here we saw the tree of life **and the throne of God**. Out of the throne came a pure river of water... {EW 17.1}

Consider...

Rev 3:21 I **[Jesus]** also overcame, and **am set down with my Father in his throne.**

Now compare...

Heb 12:2 Looking unto **Jesus...who...is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.**

Luk 22:69 Hereafter shall **the Son of man sit on the right hand of the power of God.**

In Conclusion

Father and Son sit on one throne just as two trunks share one canopy! Their throne represents the unlimited power and authority they wield – their Spirit. Just as there are not three coequal trunks, there are not three coequal seats on divinity's throne.

Just two Beings rule and provide for the Universe *by* their power, their presence, their knowledge, their visitation, their voice, their word, their glory, their brightness, their mighty arm, their hand, their grace, their gospel, their love...in other words, **by their spirit of holiness.**