

THE PERSON AND WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

LESSON #10

Memory Verse: John 14:26

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.

Throughout church history there have been numerous attacks upon the Deity and personality of the Holy Spirit; and in more recent years, there has been great misunderstanding and error in regard to His work in the life of believers. Hence, this lesson will highlight the Scriptural evidence of the Deity and person of the Holy Spirit, as well as a biblical description of His work in the life of believers.

I. The Deity of the Holy Spirit

A. The Holy Spirit possesses divine attributes. Match the passages (left) to the divine attributes of the Holy Spirit (right).

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| 1. Isaiah 40:13; 1 Corinthians 2:10-12 | Omnipotence (all-powerful) |
| 2. Job 33:4; Luke 1:35; Romans 8:11 | Sovereignty (total authority) |
| 3. Psalm 139:7-10; Ephesians 2:17-18 | Omnipresence (present everywhere) |
| 4. 1 Corinthians 12:11; Zechariah 4:6 | Omniscient (all-knowing) |

B. The Holy Spirit accomplishes divine works.

1. Read Genesis 1:1-2 and Job 33:4 and discuss the divine action/work performed by the Holy Spirit. _____

2. According to 2 Samuel 23:2-3 and 2 Peter 1:21, what active role did the Holy Spirit play in the divine work of prophecy? _____

3. What part did the Holy Spirit play in the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, and what part does He play in the resurrection of Christians (Romans 8:11)? _____

C. The Holy Spirit possesses divine titles. Match the passages (left) to the divine titles of the Holy Spirit (right).

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| 1. 1 Corinthians 3:16 | The Spirit of the Lord |
| 2. Isaiah 11:2 | The Spirit of God |
| 3. 2 Corinthians 3:2-3 | The Spirit of the living God |
| 4. Romans 8:9 | The Spirit of Grace |
| 5. Hebrews 10:29 | The Spirit of Truth |
| 6. John 16:13 | The Spirit of Christ |

II. The Personality of the Holy Spirit

A. Personal attributes – The Holy Spirit possesses the capacity to know, feel and act. These attributes could never be assigned to a power of force, but only to a person.

- The Holy Spirit has intellect – He knows.
 - “He who searches the hearts _____ what the mind of the Spirit is, because He _____ for the saints according to the will of God.”* (Romans 8:27)
 - Read 1 Corinthians 2:10-11 and answer the following questions.
 - How much knowledge does the Holy Spirit have (v.10)? _____
 - What knowledge is unique to the Holy Spirit (v.11)? _____
- The Holy Spirit has emotions – He feels.
 - What emotion of the Holy Spirit is spoken of in Ephesians 4:30? _____
 - What emotion of the Holy Spirit is described in Hebrews 10:29? _____
- The Holy Spirit has a will – He acts.
 - What decision or direction was given by the Holy Spirit to Paul and his team in Acts 16:6-11? _____
 - What two ways does 1 Corinthians 12:11 say that the Holy Spirit carries out His will? _____

B. Personal Recognition – The actions of individuals in response to the Holy Spirit clearly indicate personality. Describe how people responded to the Holy Spirit in the following passages.

- Isaiah 63:10 _____
- Acts 5:3-4 _____

3. Acts 5:9 _____
4. Acts 7:51 _____
5. Acts 10:19-21 _____

C. Personal performance – The works and actions of the Holy Spirit clearly indicate personality. Match the passages (left) to the works of the Holy Spirit (right).

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| 1. Isaiah 48:16 | He calls / chooses |
| 2. John 16:13 | He commands and directs |
| 3. John 14:26 | He teaches |
| 4. John 16:7-8 | He convicts |
| 5. Acts 8:29 | He guides |
| 6. Acts 13:2 | He comforts |

III. The Work of the Holy Spirit in the Life of the Believer

A. The permanent and non-repetitive work of the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation.

1. Conviction – Opening the sinner’s eyes to a knowledge and conviction of his sin.

- a. Of what three things does the Holy Spirit convict the world (John 16:7-11)? _____

2. Regeneration¹

3. Spirit Baptism – A one time occurrence that places the believer into the body of Christ, thus identifying and uniting him with Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection.

a. Read Romans 6:1-11 and answer the following questions.

(1) How are believers described (v.3)? _____

(2) What have believers been baptized into (v.3)? _____

(3) What is the purpose of this Spirit baptism (v.4)? _____

(4) How are Christians united with Christ (v.5)? _____

(5) How are believers impacted by Christ’s death and resurrection (vv.6-11)? _____

b. “For by one _____ we were all _____ into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.” (1 Corinthians 12:13)

¹ Please see lesson #8 for a discussion of regeneration.

4. Indwelling – Every believer is indwelt by the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation.
 - a. A believer’s body is a _____ of the _____ (1 Corinthians 6:19)
 - b. *“However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God _____ in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.”* (Romans 8:9)

5. Sealing – All believers are sealed by the Holy Spirit, and this seal is a sign of ownership, security and authenticity.
 - a. How did God guarantee His pledge in the life of believers (2 Corinthians 1:22)?

 - b. What did Paul say the Holy Spirit does when a person believes the gospel and is saved (Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:30)? _____

6. Giving of spiritual gifts – The key passages dealing with spiritual gifts are Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, 28-30 and Ephesians 4:11-12 along with 1 Peter 4:10-11 and 1 Corinthians 14:12. Read these passages and answer the following questions.
 - a. Who gives spiritual gifts? _____
 - b. Who receives spiritual gifts? _____
 - c. What spiritual gifts are listed? _____

 - d. What is the purpose of the spiritual gifts? _____

The temporary sign gifts were limited to the apostolic age and therefore ceased after that time. Those gifts included miracles, healing, languages, and the interpretation of languages. The purpose of temporary sign gifts was to authenticate the apostolic message as the Word of God, until the time when the Scriptures, His written Word, were completed and became self-authenticating.²

² John MacArthur, *The MacArthur New Testament Commentary: 1 Corinthians*, (Chicago, IL.: Moody Press, 1984).

B. The continuous and repetitive work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer.

1. Bearing witness to the truth – The Holy Spirit reveals and teaches truth to believers.
 - a. To what did Peter say that the Holy Spirit is a witness (Acts 5:31-32)? _____

 - b. Of whom does the Holy Spirit testify (John 15:26)? _____
 - c. What does the Holy Spirit declare to believers (John 14:26, 16:13-14)? _____

 - d. What assurance comes from the inner witness of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:16)?

 - e. Why was Paul able to be confident in his teaching (1 Corinthians 2:12-13)? _____

2. Filling – The Holy Spirit controls the willing believer
 - a. What are believers commanded to do in Ephesians 5:18? _____
 - b. What conditions are given for the filling of the Holy Spirit (i.e. to be transformed by the renewing of your mind) in Romans 12:1-3? _____

 - c. Read the following verses and list the results of being filled with the Holy Spirit.
 - (1) Ephesians 5:19-20 _____
 - (2) Ephesians 5:21 _____
 - (3) Galatians 5:22-25 _____
 - (4) Romans 5:3-5, 13 _____

To be filled with the Spirit is to “be under His total domination and control...To be filled with the Spirit involves confession of sin, surrender of will, intellect, body, time, talent, possessions, and desires. It requires the death of selfishness and the slaying of self-will...To be filled with God’s Spirit is to be filled with His Word. And as we are filled with God’s Word, it controls our thinking and action.”³

³ John MacArthur, *The MacArthur New Testament Commentary: Ephesians*, (Chicago, IL.: Moody Press, 1986), 250-252.

3. Empowering – The Holy Spirit empowers believers to do the work of God.
 - a. According to Acts 1:8, what did the Holy Spirit give the disciples given power to do? _____
 - b. Should we depend on our own strength or that of the Holy Spirit (Zechariah 4:6)?

 - c. How does the Holy Spirit relate to the believer’s obedience (1 Peter 1:1-2; 1 John 3:24)? _____

4. Protecting – The Holy Spirit enables the believer in weakness and temptation.
 - a. What was David’s prayer (Psalm 51:12)? _____
 - b. What was Paul’s prayer (Ephesians 3:16)? _____
 - c. How does the Spirit help believers in weakness (Romans 8:26)? _____
 - d. How does the Spirit help believers in temptation (1 Corinthians 10:13)? _____

IV. Personal Application

- A. Reflect on how your life gives evidence of the work of the Spirit in your heart. _____

- B. How have you been and are you being filled with the Spirit? _____

- C. How does knowing that God the Holy Spirit dwells within you impact your life? Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 and comment on how you can glorify God by taking care of His temple. _____

