

Introducing God, The Holy Spirit

Who He Is And His Role In Our Lives

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1 Introduction

- The Holy Spirit is a mystery to many
- He is talked about all throughout the Bible
 - Yet, many don't understand His role, who He is, why He's here
- Today, I am going to introduce you to God, the Holy Spirit

Main Text (John 16:7-15, NIV)

7 But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. 8 When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 about sin, because people do not believe in me; 10

about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; 11 and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

12 "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. 13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. 14 He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. 15 All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you."

2 The Holy Spirit Is Part of the Trinity and Is A Person

- The Holy Spirit is God in Spirit
- He is a real person
- Jesus refers to him as The Advocate

- The Greek word used is for Advocate is “paraklētos” which means:
 - summoned, called to one's side, esp. called to one's aid
 - one who pleads another's cause with one, an intercessor
 - in the widest sense, a helper, succourer, aider, assistant
- Putting this in context, Jesus has sent Him to be
 - our aid,
 - our helper,
 - our intercessor
- Jesus said:

Matthew 28:19 (NIV)

19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

- Jesus identifies the Holy Spirit as part of the Godhead:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. One God, three persona's and roles.

3 The Holy Spirit Came After Jesus' Ascension

Acts 1:1-6 (NIV)

1 In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach 2 until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. 3 After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. 4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. 5 For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

6 Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

7 He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own

authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

- Jesus prophesied that the Holy Spirit would come upon the disciples
- The pouring out of the Holy Spirit was also prophesized by the Prophet Joel:

Joel 2:28 (NIV)

“And afterward,

I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy,

your old men will dream dreams,

your young men will see visions.

- The prophesy happened at Pentecost

Acts 2:1-4 (NIV)

2 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

- The Holy Spirit would give them power
- Power to be witnesses throughout the ends of the earth

4 The Holy Spirit Confirms Are Salvation

- We must be baptized in the Holy Spirit to receive salvation
 - Which only comes through Jesus Christ being our personal Lord and Savior!

John 3:1-4 (NIV)

3 Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. 2 He came to Jesus at night and said,

"Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him."

3 Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

4 "How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!"

5 Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. 7 You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

- When we are born again, Paul tells us that with the Holy Spirit we are:

Ephesians 4:30 (NIV)

sealed for the day of redemption.

- The Greek word used for sealed means:
 - to confirm authenticate, place beyond doubt
- In other words, your salvation is secure by the blood of Christ and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit

5 The Holy Spirit Lives In Us

- When we invite Christ into our lives, we invite the Holy Spirit
- According to Paul in his letter to Corinth:

1 Corinthians 6:19 NIV)

"your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own"

- Before Christ paid for our sins, God's Spirit resided in the Holy of Holies

- Only certain priests who made sacrifices and went through a cleansing ritual could approach the Holy of Holies
- Once our sins were paid for, those who accept Christ as Lord and Savior become the temple of the Holy Spirit

6 The Holy Spirit Gives Us Words To Speak

Matthew 10:20 (NIV)

20 for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

- The Holy Spirit puts words and thoughts in our mind
 - Sometimes it is to prophesy (or edify) someone else or a whole community
- Sermons often are given through the power of the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 2:13 (NIV)

13 This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words.

- Sometimes the Holy Spirit gives us words to pray over a person or a situation

Romans 8:26 (NIV)

26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.

7 The Holy Spirit Sows God's Word In Our Hearts

Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)

12 For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

- The Holy Spirit helps us to receive God's Word as nourishment.

- He gives us a new understanding of His Holy Word.
- This is why the world cannot understand it.

1 Corinthians 2:14 (NIV)

14 The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.

- Paul said to the Thessalonians:

1 Thessalonians 1:5 (NIV)

.. our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction.

- The Holy Spirit testifies and convicts when the Gospel is shared.
- He opens our eyes to God's truth.

8 The Holy Spirit Leads Us To Do God's Will

Romans 8:5 New International Version (NIV)

5 Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

- When we truly desire to do God's will, when we pray and listen to the Holy Spirit, we will be led to do God's will
- He never forces His will on anyone
- We have to want to do His will
- We have to ask Him and listen to Him

Jesus said:

John 5:19 (NIV)

... "Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.

- Paul further explains...

Galatians 5:13-16 (NIV)

13 You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. 14 For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." 15 If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

16 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

- We have to choose: We can choose to walk in the flesh or walk in the Spirit.
- We have to really want the presence of God in our life to live by the Spirit.
- How do we know we are walking with the Spirit?

Galatians 5:22-25 (NIV)

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and

desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

9 The Outpouring Of The Spirit

- There are times when there is an incredible presence of the Holy Spirit
- We often encounter this during times of worship and corporate gatherings

Acts 4:31 (NIV)

31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

- Sometimes the Spirit is poured out and many are healed all at once:

Acts 5:16 (NIV)

Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by impure spirits, and all of them were healed.

- Other times, such as great revivals, the Holy Spirit is poured out and many come to the Lord all at once

Acts 10:44 (NIV)

While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.

- Peter preached an incredible sermon by the power of the Holy Spirit
- The Holy Spirit had an incredible outpouring

Acts 2:37-41 (NIV)

37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the

gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” 41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

- 3,000 people saved! Praise the Lord!
- How hard is it to see one person saved, let alone 3,000?
- It is by the power of the Holy Spirit that such revivals take place.

10 The Holy Spirit Pours His Love Out Through Us

Galatians 5:14 (NIV)

14 For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

Furthermore, Jesus said in

Matthew 5:43-45 (NIV)

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

- We need the unfailing love of God through the power of His Holy Spirit to love unconditionally
- This is how the world recognizes the God we serve.
- When we draw on the love of God, we are demonstrating God's true nature and character.

1 John 4:8 Says,

Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

- The love of God is a sacrificial love that put's other's first
- Jesus said,

John 15:13 (NIV)

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

- Jesus sacrificed everything in order that His love might be made known and complete
- We need to draw into God and let the Holy Spirit show us how to love the way Christ did.

Jesus said:

John 14:12 (NIV)

Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

- It is because he went to the Father we received the Holy Spirit
- The Holy Spirit is at work in each of us
- He gives us the ability to do great things out of His great love
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