

In this series we are going to look at:

- Who is the Holy Spirit & His role (today)
- The gifts of the Spirit – are they for today? If so, which ones?
- The purposes of the gifts & objections to the gifts
- Spiritual warfare & deliverance
- How to handle abuses and/or misuses of the gifts.

IF you have QUESTIONS as the series moves along – or – already have questions – PLEASE SEND THEM TO ME.

Before we discuss specific gifts, such as prophecy, tongues, healing, signs, deliverance, and more, we need to ensure that we lay a foundation based not on our experience or lack thereof but on the teachings of Scripture.

WHY THIS MATTERS: Often, we don't bring our beliefs and practices to their logical conclusions.

- *IF the Holy Spirit has an active role beyond salvation, and His gifts are for today, God gave them for a purpose. Thus, we need them to fulfill our purpose.*
- *IF the Holy Spirit no longer has an active role (beyond salvation) and the gifts of the Spirit have ceased, God caused them to cease. Thus, pursuing them is a distraction, or worse, a deception.*

PRAY – Lord, we ask You to reveal Yourself to us through the Scriptures and Your Spirit – that we may KNOW YOU more, walk in TRUTH, and live in accordance with that TRUTH.

A. The Holy Spirit is GOD: he is not a force, or power, or 'it'. He is FULLY God and a person of the Trinity.

Acts 10:38 (NIV) ... how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, ... (Not JUST power)

Acts 5:3-4 (NIV) Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit ... You have not lied to men but to God."

Trinity. Father, Son, Spirit. Three distinct persons in ONE God.

The ancients used the analogy of the Sun to demonstrate. ONE Sun. Mass, heat, light. Three distinct characteristics that are unified in one object.

CAREFUL with analogies such as water; solid ice, vapour gas, and liquid... as they represent water changing into different forms... this can lead to a heresy regarding the Trinity call Modalism – which states that God changes modes from Father to Son to Spirit. FALSE TEACHING. (Steven Furtick teaches this)

Four proofs of the Holy Spirits Divinity: (Scripture says Father, Son, Spirit all present at CREATION)

1. The Holy Spirit is omniscient.

- **1 Corinthians 2:10-11 (NIV)** ... but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. 11 For who among men knows the thoughts of a man

except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.

2. The Holy Spirit is Omnipresent.

- **Psalm 139:7-10 (NIV)** Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? 8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. 9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, 10 even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

3. The Holy Spirit was present with the Father & Son at Creation

- **Genesis 1:2** "*Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.*"

4. The Holy Spirit is our HELPER (Paraclete) (Jesus is our Paraclete)

- The word, "Helper," comes from Greek word, "paraclete," and is translated variously in English Bible translations as Helper, Advocate, Counselor and Comforter.

1. The Father sent Jesus. Father sends the Spirit.

- **John 5:43 (NIV)** I (Jesus) have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; but if someone else comes in his own name, you will accept him.
- **John 14:26 (ESV)** But the Helper (Paraclete), 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 have said to you.

2. Jesus was with the disciples; the Spirit will be with disciples.

- **John 14:16-18 (ESV)** And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, ... You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."

3. Jesus taught them the Truth; the Spirit teaches us the Truth.

- **John 14:6 (NIV)** Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
- **John 16:13 (NIV)** But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth.

4. Jesus was rejected; the Spirit will be rejected.

- **John 1:10-11 (NIV)** He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.
- **John 14:17 (ESV)** ... the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him.

Why this matters: Due to abuses, misuses, false teachings, and failed expectations → People resist & reject the Holy Spirit today.

Acts 7:51 (ESV) ...you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you.

1 Thessalonians 5:19 (ESV) Do not quench the Spirit. (why?)

B. The Holy Spirit's Role

When we think of Salvation, we immediately, think of JESUS and rightly so! God became flesh, took on our sin, paid our death, and was raised back to life again! YES!

BUT, the Spirit plays an equal, albeit, different role within our Salvation.

1. Before Salvation

- **John 16:8 (ESV)** ⁸ *And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:* ⁹ *concerning sin, because they do not believe in me;*
- The Holy Spirit was sent to convince the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment
- **Matthew 12:31-32 (NIV)** *And so I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.* ³² *Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but anyone who speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.*
- WHY? The Holy Spirit is the only one who moves upon a person to bring conviction of sin and desire to be in right relationship with God – as we saw above (Jn 16:8).
- Without this work of the Spirit, you and I are incapable of responding to God. Which is why Jesus said ...
- **John 6:44 (NIV)** *No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day.*
- **Revelation 22:17 (NIV)** *The Spirit and the bride (church) say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.*
- **Rejection of the Holy Spirit is rejection of God.**
- **Hebrews 3:7-8 (NIV)** *So, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you hear his voice, ⁸ do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the desert...."*

2. At Salvation

I. The Spirit births/adopts us into God's family!

- **Romans 8:15 (ESV)** *For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"*
- Our relationship to Him might have been more like angels. But it isn't!
- Because we have also been adopted into His family, we also enjoy the wonderful privileges which attach to a familial relationship!
- **Romans 8:17 (NIV)** *Now if we are children, then we are heirs--heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.*
- **REFLECT:** Have you been rejected? Treated as "less than"? do you feel lonely? Out of place? THE SPIRIT WANTS TO ADOPT YOU INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD! Into PERFECT unity, love, relationship with the TRINITY!
- **2 Corinthians 13:14 (NIV)** *May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*
- Those who respond to the convicting work of the Spirit ("cut to the heart" in Acts 2:37) by believing and repenting of their sin, experience the Spirit's work in further ways.

II. The Spirit guarantees our Salvation!

- **Ephesians 1:13–14 (ESV)** In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.
- **2 Corinthians 1:21–22 (ESV)** And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

3. After Salvation

- **Ephesians 5:18 (ESV)** *And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, “Be BEING filled with the Holy Spirit” WHY? If He is only ACTIVE IN SALVATION – WHY THE NEED FOR CONTINUING TO BE FILLED BY HIM?*
 - **This is NOT teaching RE-REBIRTH! NO! Once you believe – we HAVE the Spirit!**

The Holy Spirits Role Before/At/After Salvation:

1. Convicts us of sin - Jn 16:8
2. Reveals what is righteous – Jn 16:10
3. Convicts us of judgement – Jn 16:11,13
4. Reveals Jesus to us – Eph 1:15-23 – ME IN MY CAR
5. Births us into God’s family - John 3:5-8
6. Seal of our Salvation – Eph 1:15-16
7. Pours Gods love into our hearts – Rom 5:5 RONNY
8. Gives us Access to the Father - Eph. 2:18
9. Helps us in prayer – Romans 8:26
10. Helps us understand God’s Word - Eph 1:17-18; 1 Cor 2:8-15 ME Bible in a YEAR – DO IT!
11. Develops character in us (It’s a process) – Gal. 5:22-23
12. Empowers the gifts of the Spirit – 1 Cor 12:1-11
13. Wisdom & revelation – Eph 1:15-23 PARENT – strategy for how to parent ME and JULIE – it worked!
14. Gives us hope – Eph 1:15-23 -
15. Power to do God's will – Phil 2:13 – FORGIVENESS – MY MARRIAGE – NEVER WITHOUT SPIRIT
16. Empowers us to Overcome SIN – Eph 5:18-21; Gal 5:16-25 – INNER HEALING
17. Empowers us to do the Great Commission – TERREL
18. Is our Paraclete - Advocate – Helper - Comforter – be with us FOREVER – Jn 14:26
19. The Holy Spirit is Truth and leads us to the Truth – Jn 14:17
20. Glorifies Jesus and the Father!
21. He FELLOWSHIPS with us! – 2 Cor 13:14 – I wouldn’t have made it through COVID & THE SPLIT!

C. Weekly Application Steps:

- **Ask the Holy Spirit if you have grieved Him in any way through false beliefs, rejection of, or misuse of His gifts, etc. Confess any sin He reveals.**
- **From the 21 roles of the Holy Spirit, are there 1-3 where you need to rely on the Holy Spirit?**
- **EMPOWER MINISTERS RETREAT – next weekend! Signup ends today!**