

THE DOCTRINE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, Part 10

John 6:63; 15:26; 16:8

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life...But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me ...And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.

3) NEW TESTAMENT ACTIVITIES (cont.)

(E) Christ and the Holy Spirit.

- 1. NT PREPARATION WORK (The Holy Spirit's preparation of Christ).**
- 2. THE HOLY SPIRIT IN CHRIST'S TEACHING**
- 3. THE MYSTIC-UNION BETWEEN CHRIST AND THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

(a) Christ Was Prophesied by the Spirit in the Scriptures (Psa.40:7; Heb.10:7; Lk.24:26,27; 1 Pet.1:11).

Psa.40:7: "Then I said, 'Behold, I have come—In the volume of the book it is written of Me to do Your will, O God.'"

Luke 24:26-27: "Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?" 27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

(b) Christ Was Conceived by the Spirit (Isa.9:6; Matt.1:18).

-The Holy Spirit was the Father's agent in the incarnation of the Son.

Christ's conception and birth by the agency of the Holy Spirit depicts a two-fold type:

1. Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and we can only enter the kingdom of grace through the Holy Spirit.
2. It is a type of our sanctification.

(c) Christ Was Justified (Vindicated) by the Spirit (1 Tim.3:16).

-The Holy Spirit's vindication of Christ not only covered His 3 ½ years of ministry, but the first 30 silent years. In His humble home in Nazareth, Jesus found Himself misunderstood by those around Him. His brothers did not believe in Him. Psalm 68:9 says, "I have become a stranger to my brothers, and an alien to my mother's children." But through all those years of rejection, Jesus had the constant attention of the Holy Spirit, as well as the Father, who said, "This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased" (Matt.3:17; Acts 4:27,30).

(d) Christ Was Anointed With the Spirit (Isa.42:1; Matt.3:16; 12:18; Acts 4:27; 10:38).

1. Christ's anointing of the Spirit was an evidence of His claims (Isa.48:16; John 6:27; Matt.3:16-17).
2. Christ's anointing of the Spirit was for service (Lk.4:14-19).

(e) Christ Was Gladdened by the Spirit (Lk.10:21; Psalm 45:6-7).

-As the hour of Christ's rejection drew near, Luke tells us that "He rejoiced in the Holy Spirit" (Lk.10:21). Weymouth translates this passage: "He was filled with the Holy Spirit with rapturous joy." Another text translates it, "He was thrilled with joy at that hour in the Holy Spirit." Thus, the Holy Spirit was the source of our Lord's joy, enabling Him to triumph over His circumstances and to glory even in His tribulations. He was anointed with the oil of gladness, and, therefore, possessed an inward peace and joy independent of all outward experiences and circumstances.

-What do we know of this joy unspeakable and full of glory? Are we sharing in Christ's joy? Is ours the right kind of joy (Lk.10:20)?

-In these days of great need and challenge to the church, nothing can substitute the Holy Spirit as the church's source of captivating joy, exuberance, and radiance.

(f) Christ Died in Conjunction With the Spirit (Heb.9:14).

The writer to the Hebrews informs us that "it was through the Eternal Spirit," that Jesus offered Himself to God as the sinless substitute for sinners. The same Spirit who had formed Christ's human body enabled Him to become strong, wise, and gracious (Luke 2:40), guided and empowered Him, also prepared Him for His sacrifice on the cross and sustained Him as He died. One expositor has said: "It was through the Eternal Spirit that His sacred will conquered its aversion to death, and for love to His Father and His people made Him a sacrifice for sin, without blemish as a perfect offering".

(g) Christ Was Raised by the Spirit (Rom.1:4; 8:11; 1 Pet.3:18; Psalm 16:10).

-As He was the Spirit of life and the Spirit of Christ's conception, He was likewise the Spirit Christ's resurrection. The Power that conceived Christ and that brought Him to birth, was the same power that quickened His body in the tomb and raised Him as "the first begotten of the dead."

-Furthermore, it is the same Holy Spirit within believers who is the pledge of our final resurrection (Rom.8:23; Eph.1:13,14; 4:30).

APPLICATION

1. Does the close relationship between Christ and the Holy Spirit inspire you to maintain a close relationship with the Holy Spirit?
2. Though He is God, the Bible teaches that Jesus did nothing of Himself. He always worked in close harmony with the Holy Spirit and in conjunction with the Father's perfect will. This required great humility on the part of Christ. Do you exhibit similar humility as you work in harmony with other believer's for the glory of Christ?

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For more information go to www.christbiblechurch.org
Reference: Dr. Herbert Lockyer