

**THE DOCTRINE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, Part 4**

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**

**(A) The Personality of the Holy Spirit.**

-The bible doesn't seek to prove the Spirit's reality or personality but states it as a fact.

**1. He is an essential part and means of divine revelation.**

*1 Cor.2:10:* "But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God" (*Rom.8:27*).

**2. He is the direct agent between heaven and earth in this age.**

*John 6:63:* "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life" (*John 14:26; 15:26; 16:13,14*).

**3. He is the administrator of the church's affairs.**

*Acts 13:2:* As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them" (*Rom.12:4,8-10*).

**4. Personal not Impersonal.**

*John 14:16,17:* And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that *He* may abide with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees *Him* nor knows *Him*; but you know *Him*, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

*John 15:26:* 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.

*John 16:7-8:* Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send *Him* to you. 8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

**5. An Important Name and Title.**

*(a) The*

-Some would suggest that the definite article "the" is not important in designating the Holy Spirit. On the contrary, when the definite article is used attention is being focused on the person Himself. Cf: *Acts 2:4:* "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit..." When the definite article is omitted as in *Acts 19:2:* "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit," attention is drawn to the power of the person. Therefore, it is important to remember that when the bible speaks of the Spirit under a metaphor or without the definite article, the Spirit's operations or works are being emphasized rather than His person.

*(b) Holy*

-There are definitely important reasons why this adjective holy is used some 100 times in describing the Holy Spirit. Here are just a few of them:

- He is essentially holy in Character. Holiness is part of His being, not just an attribute to describe Him. He *is* Holy.

- He came from a Holy God and must bear His Holy image.  
*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 things that I said to you.  
*1 Pet.1:12,16:* To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into. 16 because it is written, “*Be holy, for I am holy.*”

(c) *Spirit*

- He is called “Spirit” or “Ghost,” the old English word for “Spirit”, not because He is the only Spirit in the Godhead – “God the Father is Spirit”, but the Lord Jesus Christ is not now Spirit because He has a glorified body. The term Spirit also indicates that He is in contrast to that which is material. The Spirit is opposite to all that is of the flesh, and something seen.
- The “Spirit” is the breath of God. He expresses the mind of God (Rom.8:26,27).
- The Spirit is the realm, atmosphere or environment in which we live (Ez.37:5-10; Acts 2:1-4; John 3:8).

***Key truths about the Holy Spirit:***

1. The Holy Spirit’s Revelation is progressive in scripture (1 Cor.2:1-16).
2. The Holy Spirit came upon people irrespective of their moral character (1 Sa.11:5-7).
3. In the OT the Holy Spirit’s action was *primarily* an in-working rather than an indwelling (Acts 2:1-4).

**APPLICATION:**

1. Does the Holy Spirit working through the scriptures reveal truth powerfully to you?
2. Does the Holy Spirit, as the agent between heaven and earth, rekindle God’s life in you?
3. Are you lead by the Spirit to be a means of edification to the body of Christ (Eph.5:18; Col.1:9)?
4. Does the Holy Spirit work personally and frequently in your life?

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