

THE DOCTRINE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, Part 5

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.)

(B) Proofs of Personality.

-The Holy Spirit possesses the true elements of personality.

(1) The Heart of the Holy Spirit.

-The heart is the seat of the affections. With it we love or hate or are grieved.

Paul speaks of the "love of the Holy Spirit." Only a person can love.

Rom. 15:30: "I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by *the love of the Spirit*, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me."

Eph 4:30: "And do not *grieve the Holy Spirit* of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."

(2) The Mind of the Holy Spirit.

-Only a person can have a mind. It is evident from the works of the Holy Spirit in all their beautiful precision, thought, order, plan, and intelligence.

Rom. 8:27: "Now He who searches the hearts knows what *the mind of the Spirit* is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God."

1 Cor. 2:10, 11: "But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so *no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.*"

(3) The Will of the Holy Spirit.

- It was the Spirit who commanded and removed Philip.

Acts 8:29, 39: "Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot." 39 Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.

- It was the Spirit who exercised authority over Peter.

Acts 10:19, 20: "While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are seeking you. 20 Arise therefore, go down and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them."

Acts 16:6, 7: "Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. 7 After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them."

- The sovereign will of the Spirit determines our gifts and use of them.

1 Cor. 12:11: "But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills."

(4) The Mistreatment of the Holy Spirit Proves His Personality.

- The Bible depicts the Holy Spirit suffering. He can be grieved, quenched, blasphemed, insulted, and lied to (*Isa. 63:10; Eph. 4:30; Matt. 12:31, 32; Heb. 10:29; Acts 5:3*).

(5) *The Holy Spirit's Actions Can only be Performed by a Person.*

- The Holy Spirit can *search* (1 Cor.2:10); *speak* (Rev.2:7, 1 Tim.4:1); *cry* (Gal.4:6); *pray* (Rom.8:26); *testify* (John 15:26-27); *teach* (John 14:26, 16:12-14, Neh.9:20); *lead* (Rom.8:14); *command* (Acts 16:6-7).

(C) The Deity of the Holy Spirit

-The scriptures do not seek to prove either the personality or the deity of the Holy Spirit. These truths are so clear that people must be blind to deny it. The writers of the Bible confidently speak about the Holy Spirit as God, know Him as God, and give Him the position of equality with the Father and the Son.

(1) *The Holy Spirit is identified as God.*

Acts 5:3-4: "But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back *part* of the price of the land for yourself? 4 While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."

(2) *The Holy Spirit shares the Attributes of the Father and the Son.*

-By attributes I mean those qualities and properties so clearly ascribed to deity.

- *Eternity.* "The Eternal Spirit" (Heb.9:14).
- *Omnipresence.* "Where shall I go from Your Spirit" (Psa.139:7-10).
- *Omniscience.* "For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God" (1 Cor.2:10-11; Isa.40:13-14; Rom.8:26-27).
- *Omnipotence.* "But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God" (Matt.12:28; Luke 11:20; Micah 3:8; Rom.15:13-19).
- *Holiness.* "The Holy Spirit of God" (Eph.4:30).

-Holiness is a quality attributed to the Spirit some 100 times in the scripture and is a trait of deity alone.

- *Foreknowledge.*

-God alone can know the end from the beginning or possess the knowledge of a thing before it happens. Proof of the Spirit's foreknowledge is seen in Peter's declaration, "The Holy Spirit by the mouth of David spoke before concerning Judas" (Acts 1:16; 11:27-28).

- *Sovereignty.*

-By sovereignty we mean the ability to command as God. The apostles recognized the sovereign prerogative that the Spirit manifested by their expressions, "The Lord the Spirit" - "The Spirit says" (2 Cor.3:17-18; Rev.2:7), "The Holy Spirit Said, Separate unto Me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I (the Spirit) have called them" (Acts 13:2-4).

APPLICATION:

1. When you pray in the Spirit do you sense that this ability to pray comes from the divine personality of the Spirit or from a non-personal force?
2. Considering our past mistreatment of the Holy Spirit, will you repent and pray often for the grace not to dishonor Him?
3. Since the Holy Spirit possesses the full deity and attributes of God will you recognize Him as God and give Him the honor, glory, and worship He deserves?

This outline was prepared by Pastor Joe Jacowitz
For more information go to www.christbiblechurch.org
References: Dr. Herbert Lockyer, Dr. Harry L. Turner