

THE DOCTRINE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, Part 6

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.)

(C) The Deity of the Holy Spirit (cont.)

(1) The Holy Spirit is identified as God.

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

(3) The Holy Spirit performs tasks only possible to Deity.

- **Creation.** The Spirit created the world (Psalm 33:6; Gen.1:2), created man (Job 33:4), beautified the world (Job 26:13), brings life into it (Psa.104:30).
- **Inspiration.** To be inspired by the Spirit means “one into whom the Spirit has breathed the truth He desires him to know and declare. The Holy Spirit came upon individuals both in the OT and NT, causing them to deliver inspired messages (2 Sam.23:1-3). The Spirit inspired prophesy in general (1 Tim.4:1), and the scriptures as a whole (2 Tim.3:16, 2 Pet.1:21).
- **Regeneration.** The Holy Spirit is the personal agent in the new birth, and the instrument He uses is the word of God (John 3:1-8). After quickening and giving life, He indwells the believer (1 Cor.3:16). The Holy Spirit abides in those He regenerates as the seal of our final redemption.
- **Resurrection.** Only God can resurrect from the dead. Deity is evident in all aspects of resurrection – in which the Holy Spirit has an important role. As the Holy Spirit has a part in the resurrection of Christ, He must be God. Rom.8:11: “But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.”
-The same Spirit will aid in our resurrection (Ez.8:3).

(4) The Holy Spirit is identified with the Father and the Son.

- **The work of the cross.** As redemption is the work of God, and not of man, all associated with this work must have the same nature (Heb.9:14).
Heb.9:14: “How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”
- **In the Baptismal Formula (Matt.28:18-19).**
Matt.28:18-19: “And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”.
- **The Apostolic Benediction (2 Cor.13:14).**
2 Cor.13:14: “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all, Amen.”

- ***The Heavenly Witness (1 John 5:7-8).***
1 John 5:7-8: “For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.”
- ***The United Access (Eph.2: 18).***
Eph.2:13,18: “For through Him (Christ Jesus of verse 13) we both (Jew and Gentile) have access by one Spirit to the Father.” Therefore whether it be for salvation or worship, we have come to God through the Son by the Holy Spirit.”

(D) The Symbols of the Holy Spirit.

- Types, parables, and emblems abound to illustrate the work of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We classify the emblems of the Holy Spirit under two headings (1) Symbols from natural life and (2) symbols from human life:
- ***Symbols drawn from natural life.***
 1. ***Wind.*** Jn.3:8, Acts 2:2; Eccl.11:5.
 2. ***Water.*** John 4:14, Ez.36:25-27, Isa.12:3, Rev.21:6; ***Rivers:*** John 7:37-39; ***Floods:*** Isa.44:3; ***Rain:*** Psa.72:6, Joel 2:23; ***Springs:*** Jn.4:14, Psa.87:7; ***Dew:*** Hos.14:5.
 3. ***Fire. Light:*** Eph.1:17,18, Heb.6:4; ***Heat:*** Rom.5:5; ***Power:*** Acts 2:3,4, cf. Lev.9:24; Mal.3:2.
 - ***Fire gives light*** and there indicates the knowledge and the illumination that the Holy Spirit imparts (**Eph.1:17-18**).
 - ***Fire gives heat*** – it warms cold things and persons and therefore symbolizes the Spirit’s power to warm cold hearts (**Rom.5:5**).
 - ***Fire gives power*** – and represents the powerful, energizing influence of the Holy Spirit (**Acts 2:3-4**).
 4. ***Salt.*** Matt.5:13; Mark 9:49-50.
 - Salt is used to express the influence of the saint’s spirituality in a corrupt world. It is the Holy Spirit alone who can preserve our character from deadly lukewarmness, and give it savor and pungency.
 - The expression “salted with fire” in Mark 9:49 indicates two influences of the Holy Spirit in believer’s lives. First, as “Fire” the Spirit cleanses the life of the believer, consuming all uncleanness. Second, as “salt” the Spirit keep the believer clean, preserving us day by day from sins corruption.

APPLICATIONS:

1. What is the practical application of the Holy Spirit’s subordination to the Son?
 - Do you look for the leading of the Holy Spirit in discovering God’s will?
 - Do you ask for the Holy Spirit’s humility to submit in areas that are difficult?
2. Have you experienced the Holy Spirit’s influence as Wind, Water, Fire, and Salt in your life?