

## Who Is The Holy Spirit?

By Mark Moore

- I. The Person of the Holy Spirit
- II. Personal attributes--personality
  1. Mind/Knowledge (Rom. 8:27; 1 Cor. 2:11).
  2. Affection or love (Romans 15:30).
  3. Will (1 Cor. 12:11).
  4. Can be grieved (Isaiah 63:10; Eph. 4:30).
  5. Can be resisted (Acts 7:51).
  6. Can be lied to (Acts 5:3).
  7. Can be scorned (Hebrews 10:29).
  8. Use of the masculine pronoun--He/Him, (John 15:26; 16:13-14) even though PNEUMA is neuter.
- III. Divine attributes
  1. Eternal (Heb. 9:14).
  2. Mind of God (1 Cor. 2:10-11).
  3. Power of God (Luke 1:35; Acts 1:8; Micah 3:8; Judges 14:6).
  4. Omnipresent (Psalm 139:7-10).
  5. Omniscient (1 Cor. 2:10-11).
  6. Spirit of Holiness (Rom. 1:40); of Grace (Heb. 10:29); Truth (John 14:17; 16:13); of Wisdom (Isaiah 11:2); of Glory (1 Pet. 4:14); of Life (Rom. 8:2); Eternal Spirit (Heb. 9:14).
  7. Associated with the Trinity (Mt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14).
  8. Identified with Jehovah (Compare Acts 28:25 with Isaiah 6:1-13; and Heb. 10:15-17 with Jer. 31:31-34; Acts 5:3-4).
- IV. The Work of the Holy Spirit
  1. Creation:
    - a. Creation (Genesis 1:2; Job 33:4; Psalm 104:30).
    - b. Giving life (Genesis 2:7; Romans 8:11; John 6:63; John 3:5).
    - c. Regeneration (John 3:3-7; Titus 3:5).
  2. Conviction
    - a. Working Miracles (Matt. 12:28; 1 Cor. 12:9-11).
    - b. Convicts (John 16:8-11).
    - c. Sanctification (2 Thess. 2:13; Rom. 15:16).
    - d. Restrains Sin (Inference from Gen. 6:3; Job; 2 Thess. 2:7) through:
      - i. Scriptures
      - ii. Individual Christians
      - iii. Corporate Church
      - iv. Government instituted by God (Rom. 13:1-7)
  3. Communication
    - a. Authorship of Prophecies (2 Peter 1:21).
    - b. Speaks/Testifies (1 Tim. 4:1; Rev. 2:7; John 15:26), esp. about Jesus.
    - c. Teaches (John 14:26; 16:13, 15; 15:26).
    - d. Leads and Forbids (Acts 16:6-7).

- e. Searches and Reveals (1 Cor. 2:10).
- f. Intercession (Rom. 8:26).
- g. Strengthen/Comfort (John 14:26).
- h. Commands (Acts 8:29; 13:2).

V. How to Receive the Holy Spirit

- 1. Believe (John 7:38-39; Eph. 1:13-14; Gal. 3:2,5)
- 2. Ask (Luke 11:13)
- 3. Repent and Be Baptized (Acts 2:38-39; 19:1-6; John 3:3-7;
  - a. New Birth--Titus 3:3-7; 1 Cor. 12:13))
- 4. Love (John 14:23)
- 5. Obey (Acts 5:32)

VI. Do you Possession the Holy Spirit

- 1. Better question: Does the Holy Spirit possess you?
- 2. Tests of the Spirit Possession: 1 John 4:1
  - a. Believe in Jesus, 1 John 3:23
  - b. Love the brethren, 1 John 3:24
  - c. Produce the fruit of the Spirit, Gal. 5:20-22

VII. Important Observations

- 1. The word for spirit, both in the Hebrew (RUAH) and in the Greek (PNEUMA) is the same word for "Wind" and "Breath".
- 2. It is often difficult to know whether to translate the word with a capital or a small "S". That is, it is sometimes not certain whether a passage refers to the Holy Spirit or the human spirit (e.g. Acts 19:21).
- 3. Another word for the Spirit is PARAKLETOS (from which we get the word "Paraclete"--and no, this is not athletic apparel). Etymologically it means "to call along side of." It can be translated as "Helper, intercessor, mediator, strengthener." It is found in John 14:16, 26, 15:26; 16:7; 1 John 2:1. The KJV translation of the word as "Comforter," is somewhat misleading. The H.S. does not come to make us feel warm and comfortable, but He comes to strengthen us (which is what "comfort" meant in 1611 when the KJV was translated).
- 4. As the Son was always in subjection to the will of the Father, so the Spirit is in subjection to the will of the Son as well as the Father.

## The Work of the Holy Spirit in the Life of the Christian

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- I. **Empowerment** (this is for evidence, not salvation and it's not granted to everyone).
  1. Miracles
    - a. Immaculate Conception (Mt 1:18-20; Lk 1:35)
    - b. Baptism of the H.S. (Mt 3:11; Mk 1:8; Lk 3:16; Jn 1:33; Acts 1:5; 11:16); and Baptism in general (Mt 28:19; Jn 3:5-8; Acts 2:38 [although cf. Acts 8:15-17]; 19:2-3; 1 Cor 12:12)
    - c. Tongues and/or prophecy (Acts 2:4, 17-18; 10:44-47; 11:15; 11:28; 19:6)
    - d. Demon exorcisms (Mt 12:28)
    - e. Miracles which validated Jesus' ministry (Acts 5:32, He is given to those who obey him; Heb 2:4), as well as Paul's ministry (Rom 15:19; 1 Cor 2:4), and the Galatians' conversion (Gal 3:5)
  2. Filled with the Spirit
    - a. John the Baptist (Lk 1:15)
    - b. Elizabeth (Lk 1:41)
    - c. Zechariah (Lk 1:67)
    - d. Simeon (Lk 2:25-26)
    - e. Jesus (Lk 4:1, 14; Lk 10:21; Jn 3:34; Heb 9:14)
    - f. To those who ask (Lk 11:13)
    - g. The Apostles (Jn 20:22; Acts 1:8)
    - h. Peter (Acts 4:8)
    - i. Seven "deacons" (Acts 6:3), especially Stephen (Acts 6:5; 7:55)
    - j. Saul (Acts 9:17; 13:9)
    - k. Barnabas (Acts 11:24)
    - l. Disciples (Acts 13:52)
- II. **Guidance** (Rom 8:14; Gal 5:18)
  1. Physical movement
    - a. Jesus into the wilderness for temptations (Mt 4:1; Mk 1:12; Lk 4:1)
    - b. Simeon into the Temple courts (Lk 2:27)
    - c. Philip to the Ethiopian (Acts 8:29) and then "whisked" away to Azotus (Acts 8:39)
    - d. Peter to the three messengers of Cornelius (Acts 10:19; 11:12)
    - e. Paul & Co hindered from going into Asia & Mysia (Acts 16:6-7) and Paul was "compelled" to go to Jerusalem (Acts 20:22)
  2. Specific instructions (Acts 13:2, 4; 15:28; 20:23 & 21:4, 11; 1 Cor 2:10-14; Heb 9:8) or Spiritual wisdom and revelation (Eph 1:17; 3:5; 1 Tim 4:1; 1 Pet 1:11; Rev 14:13; 22:17). "He who has an ear let him hear what the Spirit says . . ." (Rev 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22)
  3. Preaching
    - a. Promise to the Apostles when they stand before authorities (Mt 10:20; Mk 13:11; Lk 12:12)
    - b. General preparation for preaching (Acts 1:8; 4:8, 31; 6:10; 1 Th 1:5-6; 1 Pet 1:12)
  4. Prophecy (Mt 22:43; Mk 12:36; Acts 1:16; 4:25; 28:25; Heb 3:7; 10:15; 2 Pet 1:21)
  5. Counselor — the Spirit of truth (Jn 14:16-17; 14:26; 15:26; 16:13-15; Acts 1:2)

6. Provided encouragement to the church (Acts 9:31), strength (Eph 3:16), and help (Php 1:19; 2 Tim 1:14), especially through corporate singing (Eph 5:18-19)
7. Installs Elders in the church (Acts 20:28)

### III. **Validation**

1. Of Jesus at his baptism (Mt 3:16; Mk 1:10; Lk 3:22; Jn 1:32-33)
2. Of Jesus in his ministry and preaching (Mt 12:18 [cf. Isa 42:1-4]; Lk 4:18 [Isa 61:1-2]; Acts 10:38; 1 Jn 5:6-8) and resurrection/ascension (Acts 2:33; Rom 1:4; 1 Tim 3:16)
3. Of the Gentiles (Acts 15:8)
4. Of Paul's honesty (Rom 9:1) and ministry (2 Cor 6:5)

### IV. **Transformation** of the Christian

1. Conversion (Rom 1:29; Gal 3:14; Titus 3:5) and sanctification (Rom 15:16; 1 Cor 6:11; Gal 3:3; Eph 4:12; 2 Th 2:13; 1 Pet 1:2), Sealing us as God's possession (2 Cor 1:22; 5:5; Eph 1:13), so that our lives and confession align with the Spirit's (1 Cor 12:3; 1 Jn 4:2-3, 6)
2. New life (Jn 6:63; 7:38-39; Rom 8:11), even to Jesus at the resurrection (1 Pet 3:18), and refreshment (Acts 3:19; Isaiah 4:1-2; 44:1-5; 55:1-5)
3. We accept God's love and are filled with it (Rom 5:5; 15:30; Col 1:8)
4. We live by the Spirit and not by the law or the flesh (Rom 7:6; 8:1-16; 2 Cor 3:3, 6, 8; Gal 3:2-3; 5:16-18; 5:25), being transformed into God's spiritual nature (2 Cor 3:17-18), as opposed to fleshly men who live by natural instincts and not by the Spirit (Jude 1:19)
5. Confirmation that we are God's children (Rom 8:16-17; Gal 4:6) and thus grants us access to God (Eph 2:18)
6. Intercedes for us when we don't know how to pray (Rom 8:26-27; Jude 1:20)
7. The true nature of the kingdom is righteousness, peace and joy in the H.S. (Rom 14:17\*; 15:13)
8. The Spirit indwells our bodies (1 Cor 3:16; 6:19; Eph 2:22; Php 2:1; Heb 6:4; 1 Pet 4:14; 1 Jn 3:24; 4:13) and unifies the body of Christ (Eph 4:3-4); Through him we contact and worship God (Php 3:3)
9. He grants us spiritual gifts (Rom 12:6-8; 1 Cor 12:4, 7-12; Eph 4:11-13), fruit (Gal 5:22-23), and armament (Eph 6:17-18)

### V. **Miscellaneous**

1. Sins Against: Blasphemy of the H.S. (Mt 12:31-32; Mk 3:29; Lk 12:10; Heb 10:29); and lying to the H.S. (Acts 5:3, 9); resisting the H.S. (Acts 7:51), and grieving the H.S. through gossip (Eph 4:30); or putting out his fire (1 Th 5:19)
2. Salutations: (2 Cor 13:14)
3. "In the Spirit" (Rev 1:10; 4:2; 17:3; 21:10)
4. Uncategorized (Rom 8:23; 1 Cor 7:40; Gal 4:29; 5:5; 6:8; 1 Th 4:8)