

THE HOLY SPIRIT



We believe in the indwelling of The Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling the Christian is able to live a godly life.

Throughout God's Word, we see the actions of the Holy Spirit. However, only in the New Testament, and particularly in the Book of Acts, do we see Him as a distinct Person of the Godhead. Tragically, many people are like the believers at Ephesus when Paul first went and asked if they had been filled with the Holy Ghost. Their reply was, "*We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost*".

Acts 19:2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

Because we are afraid of excesses, we shy away from the Holy Ghost baptism today. How tragic this is. In these last days, the Holy Spirit is moving in dramatic ways preparing the church for the Coming of Christ. The early Church relied heavily on the Holy Spirit. If we are to get the job done for God in our age, we, too, must be filled with His Spirit.

I. THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Too little is known by most about the Holy Spirit. It is vital we understand His position and power so we can more effectively serve Jesus in our day of great harvest. The Bible tells us many things about the Person of the Holy Spirit.

A. He is God.

Acts 5:3-5

³ But Peter said, Ananias, why hath satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?

⁴ Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.

⁵ And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things.

B. He is all Knowing.

1 Corinthians 2:10-11

10 But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

C. He is eternal.

Hebrews 9:14 How much more shall the Blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

D. He is assigned equal status with the Father and with Jesus.

1. In the Great Commission.

Matthew 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

2. In Blessings.

1 Corinthians 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.

3. In divine oneness.

1 John 5:7 For there are three that bear record in Heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

E. He was active in the life of Jesus.

1. In His birth.

Luke 1:35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

2. In His ministry.

Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: Who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with Him.

Luke 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

3. In directing Him.

Matthew 4:1 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

4. In His teaching.

Acts 1:2 Until the day in which He was taken up, after that He through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom He had chosen:

5. In the Crucifixion.

Hebrews 9:14 How much more shall the Blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

6. In the Resurrection.

Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you.

F. He gave specific instruction to the early Church.

1. To ordain Barnabus & Saul.

Acts 13:2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

2. Forbade Paul to go to Asia.

Acts 16:6 Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia.

3. Foretold what would happen to Paul.

Acts 21:11 And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.

Acts 20:23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me.

II. THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

John 16:8 And when He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

The Holy Spirit was given to move on the unbeliever and to comfort the believer. He never speaks of Himself, but the things of Christ.

John 16:13-14

¹³ Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will shew you things to come.

¹⁴ He shall glorify Me: for He shall receive of Mine, and shall shew it unto you.

A. His work with the unbeliever.

1. Reprove the world of sin. He brings conviction to the souls of the lost.

John 16:8-9

⁸ And when He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

⁹ Of sin, because they believe not on Me;

2. Convinces men that Jesus is the Son of God and can be their Saviour.

John 16:10 Of righteousness, because I go to My Father, and ye behold Me no more;

3. Shows men that the power of satan is broken by Jesus in His death on the cross.

John 16:11 Of Judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

4. Regeneration of sinner.

John 3:5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God.

B. His work with the believer.

1. Comforts them and assures them of their salvation.

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you.

Romans 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

2. Teaches and leads into all truth.

1 John 2:27 *But the anointing which ye have received of Him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in Him.*

John 16:13 *Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will shew you things to come.*

3. Empowers to witness.

Acts 1:8 *But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*

4. Fills our mouth with His words in our time of need.

Luke 12:12 *For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.*

5. Gives us direction.

Romans 8:14 *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.*

6. Helps us live above fleshly lusts.

Galatians 5:16 *This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.*

7. Seals us, that is, gives us assurance of God's ownership of our lives.

Ephesians 1:13-14

13 *In Whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the Gospel of your salvation: in Whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise,*

14 *Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory.*

8. Gives and administers gifts to the Church.

1 Corinthians 12:7 *But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.*

9. Only through Him can we really believe and say Jesus is The Son of God.

1 Corinthians 12:3 *Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.*

10. He joins with the Church in inviting the lost to Jesus Christ.

Revelation 22:17 *And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.*

III. THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

1 Corinthians 12:8-10

⁸ *For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;*

⁹ *To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;*

¹⁰ *To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues.*

There are nine gifts of the Spirit given to the Church **“to every man to profit withal”**.

1 Corinthians 12:7 *But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.*

A. **The word of wisdom.** Godly wisdom given as needed for specific difficult situations in the life of the Church

B. **The word of Knowledge.** An awareness from God concerning some situation or teaching needed for a specific time or problem

C. **Faith.** When special faith is needed for a specific time to accomplish a great task for God, this is given to the Church.

D. **Gift of Healing.** Out of God’s love and concern, He provides these gifts for His people who need physical, emotional, and mental healing.

E. **Working of Miracles.** The performance of some task that is beyond the ability and possibility of human efforts to accomplish

F. **Prophecy.** Proclaiming the message of Jesus Christ with great power so the lost can hear and turn to Jesus as Lord.

G. **Discerning of spirits.** Understanding the spirit world and being able to distinguish those false teachers and prophets

H. **Divers kinds of tongues.** Other Languages given for witness as happened on the Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

I. **Interpretation of tongues.** Ability to understand and interpret on the Day of Pentecost

All of these gifts of the Spirit are operating in the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ and are given that the Church be a vital witness in our day. They are not for the glory of one or a few individuals. They are gifts to the Church, and these gifts belong to God, not individual persons. Paul says we are to desire these gifts.

1 Corinthians 12:31 But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.

IV. THE FRUIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Galatians 5:22-23

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Jesus said that in the last days there would come many false teachers and prophets who would be able to duplicate the gifts of the Spirit.

Mark 13:22 For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect.

Those who look to the miracles and wonders as seals of approval on a ministry will be deceived in those days. However, Jesus tells us there is a better and sure way we can know whether teachers and prophets are of God. This way is by the fruit of their lives.

Matthew 7:16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

The fruit of the Spirit cannot be duplicated by satan or any of his followers.

A. **The fruit of the flesh.**

Galatians 5:19-21

19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the Kingdom of God.

B. The Fruit of the Spirit.

1. **Love** fully defined in Paul's famed "love chapter", this is a must for all believers.

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

1 If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am become sounding brass, or a clanging cymbal.

2 And if I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

3 And if I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and if I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profiteth me nothing.

4 Love suffereth long, and is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

5 doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not its own, is not provoked, taketh not account of evil;

6 rejoiceth not in unrighteousness, but rejoiceth with the truth;

7 beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

8 Love never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall be done away; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall be done away.

9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part;

10 but when that which is perfect is come, that which is in part shall be done away.

11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I felt as a child, I thought as a child: now that I am become a man, I have put away childish things.

12 For now we see in a mirror, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know fully even as also I was fully known.

13 But now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

1 John 3:14 We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.

2. **Joy.** Believers are to be joyful people. A right relationship with God provides joy. Jesus wants His followers to be filled with joy.

John 15:11 *These things have I spoken unto you, that My joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.*

3. **Peace.** This is an inner rightness that does not depend on outward conditions, but on a relationship with God. We can have peace beyond human understanding, even in deepest trouble.

Philippians 4:6-7

⁶ *Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.*

⁷ *And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

4. **Longsuffering.** Patience in trial is a quality of the Spirit-filled life. Each trial that we go through is a means to develop this wonderful quality.

Romans 5:3-4

³ *And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;*

⁴ *And patience, experience; and experience, hope:*

5. **Gentleness.** When the Spirit controls our temperament, we become gentle beings.

2 Timothy 2:24 *And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient,*

6. **Goodness.** Pureness of heart assures us of seeing God.

Matthew 5:8 *Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.*

Titus 1:16 *They profess that they know God; but in works they deny Him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.*

7. **Faith.** The original Greek here is “faithfulness.” As stewards of God, we are always to be found faithful in every area of our life.

1 Corinthians 4:2 *Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.*

8. **Meekness.** Humility is a hallmark of the Spirit-filled life. The true believer does not insist on his own way nor demand that attention be focused on himself, but desires to help others.

1 Corinthians 13:5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

9. **Temperance.** A well-ordered life of discipline and self-control is a good testimony that your life is Spirit-filled.

Ephesians 5:15 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,

A Spirit-controlled person does not need the Law to guide his life. Rather, the quality of his life is such that others see Jesus in him.

Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven.

V. THE GRACES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1 Corinthians 13:13 And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

Only three things last into eternity: Faith, Hope, and Love. Much of our lives are preoccupied with just those things that will pass away after this life. The gifts of the Spirit are wonderful and necessary, but they will not last into eternity. The Fruit of the Spirit is the hallmark of a Spirit-filled life, but these, too, are just for this life. But the Bible tells us there are three eternal qualities of spirit that are forever. They are the graces of the Spirit, and we need to give attention to these things in our lives so we can be prepared for that great day when we stand with Him in eternity.

A. Faith is our growing relationship with God.

It is a vital ingredient for fellowship with God.

2 Corinthians 5:7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

1. Faith is the way to God.

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.

2. Faith Comes by hearing the Word of God.

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.

3. Faith is expressed in action.

James 2:17-20

17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

4. Faith in the way we live a Christlike life.

2 Corinthians 5:7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

5. Faith is how to be free of worry.

Hebrews 13:5-6

5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

6 So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

6. Faith gives us confidence with God.

Ephesians 3:12 In Whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of Him.

7. Faith in seeing the unseen.

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

B. Hope is looking unto Jesus, rather than our problems.

In Him we see the possibilities, rather than the circumstances that are bothering us.

Hebrews 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the Cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

1. Jesus is the Source of our Hope.

1 Timothy 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope;

2. The Bible was written to give us Hope.

Romans 15:4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

3. His Second Coming is called the Blessed Hope.

Titus 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

4. Hope is part of the believer's armor.

1 Thessalonians 5:8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

5. Hope is an anchor for our souls.

Hebrews 6:18-19

18 That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

19 Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;

6. We are to rejoice in our hope.

Romans 12:12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

7. We are born into hope through Christ.

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

C. Love is the closest we can ever come to being like God, because God is Love.

1 John 4:8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

1. LOVE is "The first and greatest commandment".

Mark 12:30-31

30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

2. LOVE is "Necessary for all our duties for Christ".

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

3. Inspired of God's love.

1 John 4:19 We love Him, because He first loved us.

4. LOVE is "Proof of our discipleship".

John 13:35 By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another.

5. Love Of God.

1 John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

6. If we love God, everything that happens to us will turn out for the good.

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.

7. Jesus expressed the greatest love known by giving His life that we might be saved.

John 15:13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Study notes from THE PRAYER KEY NEW TESTAMENT Lifeline Partner
Special Edition KJV published 1979 by Rex Humbard. Contributors Rex
Humbard, Ron Hembree, John T. Hendricks
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Compliments of
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