

THE HOLY SPIRIT: *GOD ALONGSIDE US AND IN US!* WHAT IF...?

We believe the Holy Spirit was sent into the world by the Father and the Son to impart to mankind the saving work of Christ. He convicts sinners, awakens in them a recognition of their need of a Savior and regenerates them. At the point of salvation He permanently indwells every believer to become the source of assurance, strength and wisdom, and uniquely endows each believer with gifts for building up the Church. The Holy Spirit guides believers in understanding and applying the Scripture. His power and control are appropriated by faith, making it possible for the believer to lead a life of Christlike character and to bear fruit to the glory of the Father. (John 16:8-11; Rom. 8:16-27; 1 Corinthians 12:7; Titus 3:5; 1 Peter 4:10)

Within Christendom, there are different views. In the non-charismatic tradition, we tend to treat Him as the silent partner of the Trinity – that’s bad. Sometimes we feel awkward talking about Him because we don’t know Him. Well, who is He and what does he do?

The Holy Spirit is God:

- Spirit of God ↔ Spirit of Christ (Romans 8:9-11)
- Holy Spirit ↔ Spirit of the Lord (Acts 5:3,9)
- Holy Spirit knows the mind of God (I Corinthians 2:6-16)
- The Lord is the Spirit (2 Corinthians 3:17)
- The Holy Spirit speaks as God (Hebrews 10:15-17)

*THE HOLY SPIRIT IS
THE THIRD PERSON
OF THE TRINITY.
HE IS A PERSON –
NOT AN "IT".*

The Holy Spirit is a Person, not a force:

- He grieves (Eph 4:30)
- He can be lied to (Acts 5:3)

According to John 16:7-11, the Holy Spirit’s ministry to unbelievers includes making them aware of and reminding them of their inability to deal with their...

- sin
- lack of personal righteousness
- judgment (*Satan and his forces are going down*)

The Holy Spirit’s ministry to believers includes:

- Regenerating -- the imparting of new life (Titus 3:5)
- Indwelling – Romans 8:9-11
Some implications of the Holy Spirit’s indwelling...
 1. Intimacy with God
 2. Permanent residence by God
 3. God owns us (1 Corinthians 6:19,20)
- Filling -- Controlling us when we yield to him (Ephesians 5:18)
The Scriptural command to be filled is in a present, on-going tense.
- Illuminating – giving understanding on spiritual matters (1 Cor 2:9-14)

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- Gifting – Spiritual gifts (1 Cor 12:4-11)
- Sealing – The guarantee of eternal life (Ephesians 1:13; 4:30)
- Interceding for us – Romans 8:26,27
- Granting us freedom – 2 Corinthians 3:17
- Baptizing -- occurs at the moment of salvation
 - Places us into Christ (Romans 6:4)
 - Places us into the Church (1 Corinthians 12:13)
 - Signifies that we belong to Christ (Romans 8:9)

A word on “**Baptism of/with the Holy Spirit**”: I believe that Christians receive ALL of the Holy Spirit when we receive Christ – consequently, there is no need for a “second blessing” in which we are anointed with the “fullness of the Holy Spirit”. To the contrary, Scripture exhorts us to be continually filled with Him rather than getting a one-time dose of the Holy Spirit. A true danger of the “one time” theology is that it leads some to seek an *experience* rather than a deepening life message. I believe that much of the confusion and controversy about this issue is due to sloppy semantics concerning filling of the Holy Spirit. I do believe that there may be one or more significant points in a believer’s life in which God performs a great deepening work in and through us, but it is God’s work that counts, not necessarily the signs or circumstances which surround the event. Depending on which “camp” one comes from, terms used are “surrendering all,” “Christ alone in me,” etc.

Monday morning...so what?

Promise kept: Jer 31:33 → John 14:16; 16:7

God in us! cf Acts 17:24

Do NOT **g r i e v e** Him (Ephesians 4:30)

Do NOT **q u e n c h** Him (1 Thessalonians 5:19)

P r a y “in the Spirit” (Ephesians 6:18, Jude 20)

L i v e by the Spirit (Galatians 5:16)

B e f i l l e d with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18)