

The Holy Spirit

Lesson 3 – Who, On Earth, Is The Holy Spirit?

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Introduction

Who is the Holy Spirit? Notice that our question is not “*What* is the Holy Spirit?” but rather “*Who* is the Holy Spirit?” Some people think of the Holy Spirit as a lifeless entity or an inanimate influence, but the Word of God describes Him as a person—a divine member of the Godhead.

I. Misconcepts Exist

- a. **The Holy Spirit is not an “it.”** The bible always speaks of the Holy Spirit in terms of “He.”

*“But when **He**, the Spirit of truth, comes, **He** will guide you into all the truth; for **He** will not speak on **His** own initiative, but whatever **He** hears, **He** will speak; and **He** will disclose to you what is to come.” (John 16:13 emphasis mine)*

- b. **The Holy Spirit is not a ghost.** A ghost is the spirit of the deceased, or an apparition, If the Holy Spirit is holy He is not a ghost; if He is a ghost He is not holy. The KJV was influenced by the Shakespearean era of ghosts and superstition.
- c. **The Holy Spirit is not merely the Word.** The bible is the inspired Word of God but it is not God! (Ephesians 6:17; 2 Timothy 3:15-17)
- d. **The Holy Spirit is merely an influence.** He is a real person and divine.

II. The Holy Spirit Is A Member Of The Trinity (Godhead)

- a. **The Trinity.** (Genesis 1:26-27; Matthew 28:18-20; 2 Corinthians 13:14)
- b. **The Holy Spirit is Divine.**
- He is eternal (Hebrews 9:14)
 - He is omnipotent (Genesis 1; Micah 3:8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11)
 - He is omniscient (1 Corinthians 2:10-11; 1 Timothy 4:1-3)
 - He is omnipresent (Psalms 139:7-10; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
- c. **God and the Holy Spirit are interchangeable.** (Acts 5:1-4; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 3:16)
- d. **The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person.** The four facets of personality are...
- Intelligence (1 Corinthians 2:10, 11; Romans 8:27; 1 Timothy 4:1-2).
 - Emotion (Isaiah 63:10; Romans 15:30; Ephesians 4:30).
 - Will (1 Corinthians 12:11; 1 Timothy 4:1; Romans 8:26; John 16:13).
 - Power (Acts 1; 2; John 15:26; Acts 8:29; 10:19; Revelation 22:17).

The Holy Spirit can be blasphemed (Matthew 12:31-32); lied to (Acts 5:3); resisted (Acts 7:51); grieved (Ephesians 4:30); insulted or despised (Hebrews 10:29); and quenched (1 Thessalonians 5:19). The actions of person are also seen. The Holy Spirit teaches and reminds (John 14:26); bears witness (John 15:26); guides into truth (John 16:13); speaks (John 16:13; 1 Timothy 4:1); hears (John 16:13); discloses (John 16:13); forbids (Acts 16:6); gives life (Romans 8:11); reveals (1 Corinthians 2:10; Ephesians 3:3-5); searches (1 Corinthians 2:10); promises (Galatians 3:14; Acts 2:33); fellowships (2 Corinthians 13:14; Philippians 2:1); intercedes (Romans 8:26-27); predicts (1 Peter 1:11); invites (Revelation 22:17) and leads (Luke 4:1; Romans 8:14).

III. The Holy Spirit Is To Glorify Christ

- a. When the Holy Spirit is at work Christ is glorified.
- b. The Holy Spirit is another paraclete (John 14-16).
- c. The Holy Spirit will never compete with Christ; He will complete Christ!