

# Life in The Spirit

## *The Holy Spirit: What is it...*

Acts 17:22-23 - Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; <sup>23</sup> for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription:

TO THE UNKNOWN GOD...

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE MOST LEAST UNDERSTOOD PERSON OF THE GODHEAD

Introduction:

### 1. The Holy Spirit is a Person, not an “it”!

John 16:5-15 - “But now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’ <sup>6</sup> But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. <sup>7</sup> Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, **the Helper** will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. <sup>8</sup> And when **He** has come, **He** will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: <sup>9</sup> of sin, because they do not believe in Me; <sup>10</sup> of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; <sup>11</sup> of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

<sup>12</sup> “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. <sup>13</sup> However, when **He**, the Spirit of truth, has come, **He** will guide you into all truth; for **He** will not speak on **His** own *authority*, but whatever **He** hears **He** will speak; and **He** will tell you things to come. <sup>14</sup> **He** will glorify Me, for **He** will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. <sup>15</sup> All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that **He** will take of Mine and declare *it* to you.

- The pronoun “He” is emphasizing that the Holy Spirit is a person and not just a force or a thing...
- Most of the ignorance concerning the Holy Spirit and His role in the believer’s life comes from this misunderstanding.
- There are entire religious paradigms, organizations and denominations that have focused on the power of The Holy Spirit without discovering the Person of the Holy Spirit.

### 2. The Holy Spirit is the most important and the most powerful person on the planet

- He was the active agent of creation – Genesis 1:2

- Who else has enough power to take an unlimited God, wrap Him in flesh and place him in the limited fleshly womb of a virgin.

### 3. The Holy Spirit is the source of life, power, and glory for the believer.

- **Genesis 2:25** vs. **Genesis 3:7**
- 2:25 – “They were naked (*Hebrew – arom*)” – *nude partially*
- 3:7 – “they eyes of both of them were open and they knew that they were naked (*Hebrew – erom*)...” – *nakedness, totally nude, bare...translated this way everywhere else it is used in OT.*

Psalm 104:1-2 - Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, You are very great: You are **clothed with honor and majesty**, <sup>2</sup>Who cover Yourself with **light as with a garment**, Who stretch out the heavens like a curtain.

Luke 24:49 – “Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are **endued with power from on high.**”

- “Endued” (Greek – *Endyo*) – comes from two roots which means to *sink down into a garment* or to be *clothed / arrayed* with...

***The glory covering that man lost in the Garden of Eden can only be reclaimed through relationship with the person of The Holy Spirit.***

Transition: *What distinguishes a person from a force or thing... most people would say “life”, but other created objects have “life”, i.e., a tree... What sets a “person” apart is the soul.*

### **What constitutes a soul: MIND / WILL / EMOTIONS**

- Mind – thoughts
- Will – desire
- Emotions – feelings

Matthew 12:18 - “Behold! My Servant whom I have chosen, My Beloved in whom **My soul** is well pleased!

Matthew 26:38 - Then He said to them, “**My soul** is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me.”

Hebrews 10:38 - Now the just shall live by faith; But if *anyone* draws back, **My soul** has no pleasure in him.”

## 1. He has a Mind

- Isaiah 55:8 - “For My thoughts *are* not your thoughts, nor *are* your ways My ways,” says the Lord.
- Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.
  - o Nothing has ever occurred to God
- Philippians 2:5 - Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus...

You have someone living inside of you who knows everything about everything and is committed to leading you into all truth.

**He is not a power you use; He is a person to know!**

## 2. He has a will

- We all know that there is something called “the will of God”
- There is only two ways to know the will of God: Through the revelation of the Word and through direct revelation by the Holy Spirit.
- Acts 16:16 - Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, **they were forbidden** by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia.
- Don't take for granted the blessing of the ability to hear God's voice
- Can you imagine asking a stranger to ask your spouse what their will is about something? Yet so many Christians try to have a relationship with the Holy Spirit through a proxy.

## 3. He has emotions

- Galatians 5:22 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, **joy**, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, self-control.
  - o The extreme opposite of **joy** is ***grief***
- Ephesians 4:30 - And do not **grieve** the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

**What grieves the Holy Spirit?**

**Ephesians 4:25-30** - Therefore, putting away lying, “Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,” for we are members of one another. <sup>26</sup> “Be angry, and do not sin”: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, <sup>27</sup> nor give place to the devil. <sup>28</sup> Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with *his* hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. <sup>29</sup> Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. <sup>30</sup> And **do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God**, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

### What does it mean to grieve the Holy Spirit?

- Greek word – *Lypeo* – to make sad, to distress bodily and emotionally
- **What grieves a person isn't the loss of relationship, but the loss of fellowship.**
- Adam does not cease to be my son because he grieved me; however, his actions might hinder our fellowship for a season.
- When we grieve the Holy Spirit, we lose a level of fellowship.