

The Doctrine of The Holy Spirit

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The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

The “Personhood” of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is a personal being just as the Father and the Son. The Spirit is not an impersonal “it” or simply an influence, He is the third person of the Trinity.

The Spirit has personal characteristics.

1. He has intelligence (**1 Corinthians 2:10-11**).
2. He has emotions (**Ephesians 4:30**).
3. He has will (**1 Corinthians 2:11**).

The Spirit acts in personal ways.

1. He teaches us (**John 14:26**).
2. He commands (**Acts 8:29**).
3. He intercedes for us in prayer (**Romans 8:26**).

The Spirit is described in personal terms grammatically.

The Greek word for Spirit (pneuma) is neuter in gender, yet the Bible uses masculine pronouns (“He,” “Him”) to refer to the Holy Spirit. (**John 16:13-14**) (**John 15:26**) and (**John 16:7-8**)

The Deity of the Holy Spirit.

He has the names and titles of Deity.

1. Yahweh - What the Lord (Yahweh) said in (**Isaiah 6:8-13**) is ascribed to the Holy Spirit in (**Acts 28:25**).
2. Spirit of God (**Romans 8:9 & 14**) (**1 Corinthians 2:11 & 12:3**) (**Ephesians 4:30**)

The Holy Spirit possesses incommunicable attributes.

1. Self-existence (**Romans 8:2**)
2. Omnipresence (**Psalms 139:7**)

The Holy Spirit performs incommunicable works.

No one but God can do them.

1. Creation (**Genesis 1:2**)
2. Resurrection (**Romans 8:11**)

The Holy Spirit is equated with Deity.

1. A lie to Spirit equals lie to God (**Acts 5:3-4**)
2. "The Lord is the Spirit" (**2 Corinthians 3:17-18**)

The Holy Spirit's role prior to the Church Age.

He took part in creation (**Genesis 1:2**) (**Job 33:4**) (**Psalms 104:30**).

He guided and protected Israel (**Isaiah 63:10-14**).

He spoke through prophets to produce Scripture (**1 Peter 1:11**) (**2 Peter 1:20-21**).

He selectively and conditionally indwelt certain people in the Old Testament (Joseph - **Genesis 41:38**) (Joshua - **Numbers 27:18**) (Saul - **1 Sam. 10:9-10**) (David - **1 Samuel 16:13**).

The Spirit's indwelling was specifically related to enabling someone to do a particular task. The Holy Spirit could cease to indwell a person because of their disobedience.

The Spirit left Saul (**1 Samuel 16:14**). When David sinned he pled that the Spirit not be taken from him (**Psalms 51:11**).

The Holy Spirit was the empowering Agent in Christ's earthly life.

1. He was the Agent of Christ's virgin birth (**Luke 1:35**).
2. He empowered Christ's ministry (**Matthew 12:28**) (**Luke 4:1 & 18**).
3. He was the Agent of Christ's resurrection (**Romans 1:4 & 8:11**).

The Holy Spirit's role in the Church Age.

He is central in salvation.

1. He directs and enables evangelistic efforts - (**Acts 8:26 & 29**).
Great Commission - (**Acts 1:8**).
2. He convicts the unbeliever of sin (**John 16:8-11**).
3. He regenerates the person. He cleanses the person from sin and gives them the new nature (**Titus 3:5**). As He performs this spiritual "New Birth" the person enters "the kingdom of God" (Eternal life- **John 3:3-7 & 16**).
4. He seals the person. The presence of the Holy Spirit is the "seal" or guarantee that a person is saved and will remain saved (**Ephesians 1:13**).
5. He places the person into the body of Christ. It is the Spirit's work of uniting us with Christ- spiritually identifying us with Christ's death, burial and resurrection (**Romans 6:3-5**) It is the Spirit's work of incorporating us into the universal church the "body of Christ" (**1 Corinthians 12:13**).

The Holy Spirit is central in sanctification.

He indwells believers.

The Spirit indwells all believers in this age (**Rom. 5:5 & 8:9**) (**1 Cor. 3:16 & 6:19**), unlike the Old Testament where the Spirit only indwelt some.

The Spirit indwells believers permanently in this age (**John 14:16**), unlike the Old Testament where the Spirit could depart.

The Spirit's indwelling is the basis for His other ministries in believers lives.

1. He teaches and illuminates Scripture - (**John 16:13**).
2. He aids in prayer - (**Romans 8:26**).
3. He assures us of our salvation - (**Rom.8:16**).
4. He enables us to grow - (**Ephesians 5:18**).

He "fills" believers.

The "filling of the Spirit" describes the crucial work of God enabling the believer to live a transformed life. The only way we grow spiritually is by the empowering work of God (**1 Peter 1:3**).

It is specifically the ministry of the Holy Spirit that gives a Christian the capability of change and growth in righteousness (**Romans 8:13**) (**Galatians 5:22-23**).

Spiritual growth is an issue of control or should I say who is in control!

We are either controlled by our self-centered flesh or by the Holy Spirit who indwells us (**Romans 8:4-11**) (**Gal. 5:16-17**).

This controlling/empowering ministry of Spirit is the "filling" of the Spirit. (**Ephesians 5:18**).

Thus we are told to "Walk in the Spirit" (**Galatians 5:16**).

He is the one who enable us - producing Godly "fruits" (**Gal. 5:22- 23**).

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit and Spiritual gifts.

3 Distinct works of the Holy Spirit!

(With) everyone in the world, drawing them to Christ. (**John 14:17**) (**John 16:7-8**)

(In) every person That has come to Faith in Christ Jesus. (**John14:17**) (**John 20:22**)

(Upon) those who have received the Baptism of the Spirit. **(Acts 1:4-8)**

3 Different Greek Prep. (Para = With) (En = In or indwell) and (Upi = upon)

According to Jesus the Evidence of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is “POWER”!

The “FRUIT” of the Holy Spirit will be “LOVE” and Self-Control! **(Galatians 5:22)**

And the “GIFTS” of the Holy Spirit will be given severally to each believer! **(I Corinthians 12:11)**

What are spiritual gifts?

1. **Definition:** Spiritual gifts are God-given abilities to serve. The Greek word for spiritual gift (charisma) is a form of the word “grace.” So these special abilities are privileges. God graciously enables all believers to serve in spiritual ministry.

2. Spiritual gifts are not particular positions. Like the position of Sunday School Teacher or Nursery attendant are not gifts although those ministries definitely can put to use spiritual gifts such as teaching, serving, etc.

3. Spiritual gifts are not the same as natural talent like music abilities, although God may often give spiritual gifts that make use of natural abilities. A musician may become a minstrel, one who under the anointing of the Holy Spirit can lead Worship. An experienced school teacher may under the anointing of the Holy Spirit become a gifted teacher of God’ Word.

How do we get spiritual gifts?

The Giver -The Holy Spirit in particular imparts these special abilities.
(I Corinthians 12:7-11).

But it is also accurate to say that they are “Christ’s gifts” to the church **(Ephesians 4:7-10).**

What is the purpose of spiritual gifts?

1. Spiritual gifts accomplish spiritual ministry that God desires.
2. Spiritual gifts equip others to minister **(Ephesians 4:12).**
3. Spiritual gifts glorify God **(I Peter 4:11).**

What are the different spiritual gifts?

Four Key Passages Describing Spiritual Gifts:
(I Corinthians 12) (Ephesians 4:7-16) (Romans 12:3-8) (IPeter 4:10-11)

The Holy Spirit's role in the End Times

In the 7-year Tribulation Period

1. In unbelievers - The Holy Spirit will be instrumental in the salvation of Israelites at the close of the tribulation (**Zechariah 12:10**).
2. In believers - The Holy Spirit will provide special enablement for spiritual tasks as in Old Testament times (**Acts 2:17-21**).

In the Millennium

1. In believers-The Holy Spirit will enable believing Israelites to live righteously (**Ezekiel 36:27**).
2. In Christ-The Holy Spirit will be active in Christ's righteous rule (**Isaiah 11:2**).