

## THE PERSON AND WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (Doctrine of Pneumatology)

Scripture: Rms.1:16-17; Rms.8 (called the Holy Spirit chapter)

### The Identity of the Holy Spirit:

- . The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity operating in accordance with God's Word and dwelling in the believer (Jn.14:16-17)...also called the Spirit of Truth
- . The purpose of the Holy Spirit's work within the believer is to conform our spirit into the likeness of Himself that we may reflect the image of Christ and bring glory to God (2 Cor.3:17-18)...also called the Spirit of the Lord...(cf. 2 Cor.4:6)
- . The Holy Spirit is co-equal and co-existent with the Father and the Son (Elohim)...and is to be believed, loved, obeyed and worshipped throughout all ages...

### The Attributes of the Holy Spirit:

#### The Holy Spirit acts as a person

He dwells in believers (Jn.14:17); He teaches (Jn.14:26); He hears, speaks and shows (Jn.16:13-14); He calls to ministry (Acts 13:2); He forbids certain actions (Acts 16:6-7) and intercedes (Rms.8:26)

#### The Holy Spirit has the qualities of personality

Will (1 Cor.12:11); Thought (Rms.8:27); Knowledge (1 Cor.2:10-11); Language (1 Cor.2:13); Love (Rms.15:30) and Goodness (Neh.9:20)

#### The Holy Spirit can be treated like a person

Called upon (Ezek.37:9); Lied to (Acts 5:3); Tempted (Acts 5:9); Resisted (Acts 7:51); Grieved (Eph.4:30); Outraged (Heb.10:29-31) also called the Spirit of Grace; Blasphemed against (Mt.12:31); and Quenched (1 Thess.5:19)

### The Work of the Holy Spirit:

. He is involved with **creation** (Gen.1:1-2)

. He restrains, moves and **convicts the world at large** (Jn.16:7-11; Jn.19:11; 2 Thess.2:6-8)

. He superintends the **inspiration of the Bible** (2 Peter 1:21; 2 Sam.23:2)

. **His work in Christ:** Incarnation (Mt.1:18); Baptism (Mt.3:16-17); Anointing (Acts 10:38); Sealed (Jn.6:27); Filled (Lk.4:1); Offered Himself (Heb.9:14) and Raised from the dead (Rms.8:11)

. **His work in the believer:** He quickens (Jn.6:63); births (Jn.3:5); regenerates (Titus 3:5); renews (Titus 3:5); justifies (1 Cor.6:11); washes (1 Cor.6:11); baptizes (1 Cor.12:13); indwells (Rms.8:9); seals (Eph.4:30); fills (Eph.5:18); equips (Rms.12; 1 Cor.12:7-11); frees (2 Cor.3:17); empowers our gifts (1 Cor.12-14); leads us (Rms.8:14; Gal.5:18); helps us (Jn.14:26); comforts us (Jn.14:26); empowers our witness (Acts 1:8); gives us confidence (Rms.15:13); welcomes us after raising us from the dead (Rev.22:7; Rms.8:11); enables us to understand the Bible (1 Cor.2:12); gives victory over sin (Rms.8:2); makes us member of one Body (1 Cor.12:13, 27) and makes us fruitful (Gal.5:22-23)

**The Baptism of the Holy Spirit**

This is God's Work of bringing us **positionally** into the body of Christ (Acts 1:5; 1 Cor.12:13)

- . It is universal to all believers (Rms.8:8-10)
- . Occurs the moment each person believes (Rms.6:3)
- . Enables us to walk a fruitful walk (Gal.5:22-23)
- . Occurs once for all (Eph.4:5)

**The Filling of the Holy Spirit**

Filling means that the Holy Spirit possesses the mind and heart (very being) of the believer...and when controlled by the Holy Spirit, the believer is controlled by a power far greater than his/her own...the filling of the Holy Spirit is **conditional** and depends upon our **obedience**...filling is a command, not an option and for **all believers**...we do not fill ourselves (the passive implication of the verb tense indicates that it is not something we do but allow to be done in us)...the best example that I was taught was by Corrie ten Boom in her demonstration of the **glove**...until it is filled by the hand, the glove is powerless and useless...such a walk is a moment-by-moment and being constantly aware of His presence and our own obedience...when we are in control, our walk is carnal...but with the control of the Holy Spirit, we can live a Spirit-filled life...much like a pitcher that needs to be filled because the pouring out results in emptiness (that is what our carnality does) ....

**The Symbols of the Holy Spirit** (1 Cor.6:19-20)

- . **WIND** - invisible and unexpected power  
(Ezek.37:9-10; Jn.3:8; Acts 2:2; 2 Peter 1:21...moved as a sailboat)
- . **DOVE** - purity and gentleness  
(Mt.3:16; Mt.10:16; Gal.5:22)
- . **WATER** - refreshment and vitality  
(Jn.4:14; Jn.7:37-38; Rev.22:17)
- . **FIRE** - cleansing and conviction  
(Mt.3:11; Acts 2:3; Rev.4:5)
- . **OIL** - illumination and warmth  
(Mt.25:3-4; Heb.1:9; 1 John 2:20,27; I Cor.2:10-16)
- . **SEAL** - authority and security (seal of a contract – divine stamp on us)  
(Jn.6:27; Eph.1:13; 2 Cor.1:22)
- . **EARNEST** - promise and hope (down-payment...paid in full in glory)  
(Eph.1:14; 2 Cor.1:22)

The purpose of the symbols is to identify the things that the Holy Spirit **does for us!**  
The Christian walk takes supernatural power, wisdom, joy and peace in order for the believer to maintain spiritual values and conform to the image of Jesus Christ....The Holy Spirit is **our dynamite** that helps us to grow into maturity...weakness and ineffectiveness can be related to the fact that He is no longer dominant in our lives...

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**The Gifts of the Holy Spirit** (Rms.12:3-8; 1 Cor.12:8-10, 28-30; Eph.4:11; 1 Peter 4:9-10)

What is the purpose of the gifts? They are given to believers to glorify God and edify (build-up) the body of Christ (1 Cor.12:7)....they are not talents but supernatural abilities

Who chooses the gift that we possess? The Holy Spirit (1 Cor.12:11; Heb.2:4)

Does everyone get a gift or just a chosen few? Everyone receives at least one gift (1 Cor.12:7; 1 Peter 4:10)

Do we all receive the same gift? No...there are varied gifts... just as it pleased God to place the gift with His choice of the individual (1 Cor.12:18)

Do we have a responsibility? Yes...we are to earnestly desire spiritual gifts (1 Cor.14:1)

What should I do? **Stir up the gift**....through ignorance, fear or disobedience, one can allow a gift to waste away and die for lack of using it...we must desire to know, to claim and believe that the Holy Spirit is working in and through us for edification (2 Tim.1:6)

Should the gifts divide us as individuals? No!...they are not given for personal superiority...there may be different gifts but no division between believers...because they are given by the **same Holy Spirit**, there is unity but not conformity....

### **What are the gifts of the Holy Spirit?**

. **Administration (governments)** (Rms.12:8; 1 Cor.12:28) The divine ability to organize, steer, **pilot (helmsman)** or direct plans to achieve effectiveness...seeing the overall picture

. **Apostleship** (Eph.4:11; 1 Cor.12:28) The word apostle means "sent one"...there are (3) general senses used in the New Testament: (1) that small group that actually saw Jesus Christ and His resurrection (2) messengers sent to establish a work, like a missionary (3) every believer who has a mission (Jn.17:18,20,21)

. **Discernment** (1 Cor.12:10) The divine ability to distinguish between the truth and error...true or false spirits...to perceive hypocrisy, phoniness, shallowness or deceit

. **Evangelism** (Eph.4:11) The divine ability to communicate the "gospel" to unbelievers so they may respond with faith and discipleship

. **Exhortation** (Rms.12:8) The divine ability to encourage, comfort or support those who are discouraged or uncertain about their faith or abilities

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- . **Faith** (1 Cor.12:9) The divine ability to see what others cannot see, to endure what others cannot endure and genuinely **trust** God when there seems to be no human reason or natural basis for that trust...
- . **Giving** (Rms.12:8) The divine ability to contribute money and material resources to the work of the Lord with cheerfulness and liberality...with no thought of personal gain
- . **Healing** (1 Cor.12:9, 28,30) The divine ability to command disease to be removed from the body in the name of the Lord
- . **Helps** (Rms.12:28) The divine ability to support and assist others believers...not only physical tasks but in building a relationship with people with other needs
- . **Hospitality** (1 Peter 4:9-10) The divine ability to provide a warm welcome and open their homes for those in need “without grumbling”
- . **Interpretation of tongues** (1 Cor.12:10) The divine ability to interpret the meaning of tongues utterances....or known languages
- . **Knowledge** (1 Cor.12:8) The divine ability to understand God’s truth in a special manner...accumulation and analyzing information effectively
- . **Mercy** (Rms.7-8; 1 Cor.12:28; Eph.4:12) The divine ability to minister cheerfully and appropriately to people who are suffering...to support and assist (“to come along side”)
- . **Miracles** (1 Cor.12:28) The divine ability to do a might work, a wonder or some spiritual occurrence produced by the power of God
- . **Pastoring** (Eph.4:11) The divine ability to be a shepherd of the flock, a minister of the gospel....one who can guide, counsel, warn and guard the body of Christ
- . **Prophecy** (Rms.12:6; 1 Cor.12:10; Eph 4:11) The divine ability to edify, instruct or direct from the Word of God...special ability to make a proper application or point in a particular direction...give attention to details and accuracy
- . **Teaching** (Rms.12:7; 1 Cor.12:28, Eph.4:11) The divine ability as an instructor that builds the knowledge of the Word of God into the lives of others...to present the whole counsel of God...to properly explain truth and provide solutions consistent with the Word of God

. Tongues (1 Cor.12:10) The divine ability to speak in other languages (Acts) or ecstatic utterances

. Wisdom (1 Cor.12:8) The divine ability to make accurate decisions based on knowledge..

What is the Fruit of the Holy Spirit? (Gal.5:22-23)

The fruit of the Holy Spirit differs from the gifts of the Holy Spirit....the gifts are given to us from **without** but the fruit are **within**....fruit is not an addition to a tree but the issue of its life...the fruit (singular) comes the inner graces or attitudes that accompany the gifts...the presence of such fruit in the life is a far more reliable evidence of spirituality than the possession or exercise of a supernatural gift which can be misused for other determinations....

What attitudes do the fruit represent?

- . love
- . joy
- . peace

\_\_\_\_\_ INWARD STATE \_\_\_\_\_

- . longsuffering (patience)
- . kindness
- . goodness

\_\_\_\_\_ TOWARD MAN \_\_\_\_\_

- . faithfulness
- . meekness
- . self-control

\_\_\_\_\_ TOWARD GOD \_\_\_\_\_

HOW DO I BEGIN?

There are several ways that we enter into this awareness of the person and work of the Holy Spirit in our lives....sometimes it will happen in a discussion, sermon or meeting like this one tonight...we could call that CIRCUMSTANCES.....

The way that is one of the most common is to go through TESTING....and we will give you an opportunity to do that this evening....there are several different tests but they all help you to identity the gift/gifts that the Holy Spirit has given to you....

HOW DO I BEGIN? (continued)

There are times that **OTHERS** help to identify our gift/gifts....they are able to make an observation or suggestion that may help us discover a gift/gifts that have laid dormant in us.....

**The Servant's Profile:** This is material from the book "Network" by Bruce Bugbee, Don Cousins and Bill Hybels

HOW ARE WE TO SERVE?:

. **Passion** - **Passion is the God-given desire that compels us to make a difference in a particular ministry**....it may involve something that you like to do or have a natural inclination to do...it may center in a certain age-group or interest group...it could be issues or causes that you feel you would like to support in a more particular way....it can be some experience with others that bring special meaning....

. **Spiritual gifts** - already covered in this message

. **Personal style** - The gifts are administered through the way we work through goals and the personal style we use: **task-oriented** energized by the way we **do things** or **people-oriented** energized by interacting with **people**...

There is a difference in the way we organize ourselves: **unstructured** which means we prefer to have a lot of **options or flexibility** or **structured** which means you prefer to **plan and bring order to others....**

In addition, you could be task-oriented/unstructured or task-oriented/structured....or people-oriented/unstructured or people-oriented/structured.....all in all, **worship, stewardship and service IS FOR A LIFETIME!**

It is my prayer that this time spent in reviewing the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit will resonate in our minds and grip our hearts.....to see the wondrous provision for all believers to have the 3<sup>rd</sup> person of the Trinity abiding within us....to see a much bigger picture of the task that awaits us, the power that is ours through obedience, the multitude that can be impacted by our awareness and perseverance and the yearning of the heart of God Himself to bless us and willingly, some day, to give us His glorious rewards....amen!