

“DOCTRINE THAT DANCES”

Studies in the Basic Teachings of the Christian Faith

Acts 1:4-8

“The Spirit and the Bride”

Introduction: The purpose of this sermon is to provide a survey of what the Bible teaches about the Person and work of the Holy Spirit.

I. The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament (Genesis-Malachi)

- A. **From Creation to Babel:** The Holy Spirit is active during the creation of the universe. He is described as “hovering” over the face of the waters (Genesis 1:1-2). The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit produce an orderly creation in six days (Genesis 1:3-31). The Holy Spirit confused the languages (created foreign languages) and scattered the different people groups during the tower of Babel incident (Genesis 11:1-9). **From Abraham to Joshua:** Pattern of Spirit-empowered leadership. Joseph (Genesis 41:38), skilled laborers who constructed the tabernacle and related equipment (Exodus 31:3, 35:31), the seventy elders who served with Moses (Numbers 11:17-29), and Joshua (Numbers 27:18).
- B. **From Judges to The Unified Kingdom of Israel:** The Holy Spirit empowered all the judges and prophets in the Old Testament (Judges 3:9-10, 6:34, 11:29, 13:25). The Holy Spirit empowered Saul and David (1 Samuel 10:10, 11:6; 1 Samuel 16:13). There are examples of people being controlled by the Spirit who did not intend or seek to prophesy (1 Samuel 19:20).
- C. **From the Divided Kingdom of Israel to the Return from Babylonian Exile:** The Holy Spirit would physically transport Elijah from one place to another (1 Kings 18:12; 2 Kings 2:16). Some people are empowered by the Holy Spirit to prophesy and do the will of God (2 Chronicles 15:1, 20:14, 24:20; Ezekiel 11:5; Micah 3:8; Nehemiah 9:20,30; Zechariah 4:6).

II. The Holy Spirit in the Gospels (Matthew-John)

- A. Christ Jesus was conceived in Mary’s womb by the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:26-35; Matthew 1:18-20). Several people were filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied during the season of the birth of Christ Jesus (Luke 1:39-41; Luke 1:67-80; Luke 2:25-28; Luke 2:36-38). John baptized with water, but Christ will baptize with the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:11). Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit after His water baptism (Luke 4:1, 14-18). Jesus cast out demons by the Spirit (Matthew 12:28).
- B. **A summary of Jesus teachings about the Person and work of the Holy Spirit:** The Holy Spirit will inspire the disciples’ speech for witnessing (Matthew 13:11). The Father

will give the Holy Spirit to those who ask (Luke 11:13). Old Testament prophecies are the work of the Spirit (Matthew 22:43). You must be born of the Spirit to enter the kingdom of God (John 3:5-8). The Holy Spirit is God and must be worshipped (John 4:24). The Holy Spirit gives life (John 6:63). Those who believe on Jesus receive the Holy Spirit (John 7:39). The Holy Spirit will indwell the disciples (John 14:16-17). The Holy Spirit teaches (John 14:26). The Holy Spirit testifies about Jesus (John 15:26). The Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16:8-11). The Holy Spirit will tell disciples things to come (John 16:13). The Holy Spirit is mentioned in the Great Commission passage as a member of the Trinity (Matthew 28:19).

III. The Holy Spirit in The Book of Acts

- A. Lord Jesus commanded His apostles to remain in Jerusalem until they were baptized with the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4-5). A result of the Holy Spirit coming upon the disciples will be empowerment to witness to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). The crucifixion and resurrection of Christ resulted in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:14-33). The gift of the Holy Spirit is received by those who repent and believe on Jesus Christ (Acts 2:38).
- B. Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit and testifies before the Sanhedrin (Acts 4:8-11). A corporate prayer of the church results in them being filled with the Holy Spirit and speaking the word of God with boldness (Acts 4:23-31). Ananias and Sapphira lied to the Holy Spirit (Acts 5:1-11). Stephen spoke by the Holy Spirit as he contended for the faith (Acts 6:10) and rebuked the Sanhedrin for resisting the Holy Spirit (Acts 7:51). The Holy Spirit allowed Stephen to gaze into heaven and see the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God (Acts 7:55).
- C. Peter and John laid hands on the Samaritan believers, and they received the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:14-17). Simon, a Samaritan sorcerer, wanted to buy the power to lay hands on people like the apostles (Acts 8:19). The Holy Spirit told Phillip to talk to an Ethiopian (Acts 8:29). Philip shares the Gospel, baptizes the Ethiopian, and is snatched away by the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:39; 1 Thessalonians 4:17). The Lord Jesus sent Ananias to lay hands on Saul so that he could receive his sight and receive the Holy Spirit (Acts 9:17). The conversion of Saul brought relief to the church and they walked in the comfort of the Holy Spirit (Acts 9:31).
- D. The Holy Spirit instructed Peter to go with the servants of Cornelius (Acts 10:19). The Holy Spirit fell upon Cornelius and his household while Peter was still speaking (Acts 10:44).
- E. Agabus, one of the prophets who came to Antioch from Jerusalem, prophesied by the Spirit concerning a famine to come upon the world (Acts 11:28). The Holy Spirit called Paul and Barnabas for missions' work (Acts 13:1-4). Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, rebuked a sorcerer and struck him with blindness (Acts 13:6-12).



- F. The Holy Spirit gave direction and approval of the decisions made at the first official church council (Acts 15:1-29). The Holy Spirit forbid Paul and his team to go to certain places for ministry (Acts 16:6-7). The Holy Spirit testified about what would happen to Paul when he travelled to Jerusalem (Acts 20:23). The Holy Spirit makes people overseers in the church (Acts 20:28).

Key Terms:

Regeneration – new life from the Spirit (John 3:3-8; Titus 3:5)

Holy Spirit Baptism – positioned in Christ by the Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:13)

Indwelling – Christ positioned in you through the Spirit (Romans 8:9)

Filling – controlled by the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18)

Gifts – Spiritual gifts are the abilities God provides to enable us to participate in His mission. Spiritual gifts are manifestations of the Spirit in the life and ministry of the church. (1 Corinthians 12:4-11, 27-30)

Fruit - represents the communicable attributes of God produced in the life of the believer by the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)

“And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely” (Revelation 22:17, NKJV).

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