

Walk By The Spirit
The Role and Importance of the Holy Spirit in the Life of a Believer

1 - A Primer on the Holy Spirit

February 5, 2017

Sunday Evening Bible Study

1. The Trinity

1.1. Trinity

- There is one God (Duet 6:4)
- The Father is God (Matt 6:9)
- The Son is God (John 1:1, 14)
- The Spirit is God (Acts 5:3,4)

1.2. The Apostles Creed and The Nicene Creed

1.3. Westminster Longer Catechism

Q. 7. What is God?

A. God is a Spirit, in and of himself infinite in being, glory, blessedness, and perfection; all-sufficient, eternal, unchangeable, incomprehensible, every where present, almighty, knowing all things, most wise, most holy, most just, most merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth.

Q. 8. Are there more Gods than one?

A. There is but one only, the living and true God.

Q. 9. How many persons are there in the Godhead?

A. There be three persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one true, eternal God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory; although distinguished by their personal properties.

1.4. Wayne Grudem - "God eternally exist as three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and each person is fully God and there is one God" (Systematic Theology, p226)

1.5. First Bible Church - "God eternally exists in three persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - these three being identical in essence, equal in power and glory and possessing precisely the same attributes and perfection." (<http://www.fbc.org/mission-vision-beliefs/>)

2. Misconceptions about the Holy Spirit

- 2.1. The Holy Spirit is not a ghost
- 2.2. The Holy Spirit is not the Force
- 2.3. The Holy Spirit is not a part of God
- 2.4. The Holy Spirit is not a Mode of God
- 2.5. The Holy Spirit is not a thing
- 2.6. The Holy Spirit does not come upon you and save you at your water baptism

3. Characteristics of The Holy Spirit

3.1. The Holy Spirit is God

- The Holy Spirit is put on equal level with the Father and the Son - Matthew 28:19
- To lie to the Holy Spirit is to lie to God - Acts 5:3-4
- David attributes the divine characteristic of omnipresence to the Spirit of God - Psalm 139:7-8
- Paul attributes the divine characteristic of omniscience to the Holy Spirit - 1 Cor 2:10-11

3.2. The Holy Spirit is a person

- We are baptized into the "name" of the Holy Spirit - Matthew 28:19
- The Spirit intercedes for us - Romans 8:26
- The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of love - Romans 15:30
- We can grieve the Holy Spirit - Ephesians 4:30
- He thinks and makes decisions - Acts 15:28, 16:7, 1 Corinthians 12:11
- He talks - Mark 13:11, Acts 8:29, 13:2
- He can be sinned against and lied to - Matthew 12:31, Act 5:3

- We have a relationship with Him - 2 Corinthians 13:14
- 3.3. The Holy Spirit is powerful
- Involved in the creation and gives life to all animate creatures - Gen 1:12, 26-27, Psalm 104:30
 - Joshua - Num 27:18, Deut 34:9
 - Judges - Othniel (Judges 3:10), Gideon (Judges 6:34), Samson (Judges 13:25)
 - David - 1 Samuel 16:13
 - Daniel - Daniel 4:18
 - Jesus - Matthew 3:16
 - Apostles - Acts 1:8
 - Stephen - Acts 7:55-60
 - Regeneration - He gives us new life - John 3:3-5, Titus 3:5-6

4. Activities of the Holy Spirit

4.1. The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

- Creation - Genesis 1:2; 26-27, Psalm 104:30
- Empowered people for special service - See 3.3
- Protected God's people and enabled them to overcome their enemies - Isaiah 63:11-12
- Dwelt within a few select people for special purposes - Joshua, Ezekiel, Daniel, Micah
- Promised to have larger role in the New covenant as well as in the Messiah - Isaiah 11:2-3, 42:1, Ezekiel 36:26-27; 37:14, Joel 2:28-29
- Inspired and protected the the revelation of God in the Scriptures - Ezekiel 11:5, Zech 7:12, 2 Peter 1:21

4.2. The Holy Spirit in the New Testament and present age of the Church

- Anointed and Empowered Jesus as the Messiah - Luke 3:22; 4:1-2, 14, 16-21
- Empowered Jesus' disciples and apostles for various works - Acts 1:8; 2:1-4, 6:5, 8
- Empowered the preaching of the early church - Act 4:8, 31; 1 Thess 1:5
- He raised Jesus from the dead - Romans 8:11
- Inspired and protected the the revelation of God in the Scriptures - Ephesians 3:5
- Regeneration - Titus 3:5-6
- Giving of Spiritual Gifts - 1 Corinthians 12:11
- Helps us in Prayer - Romans 8:26
- Guides believers - Rom 8:14, Gal 5:18
- Teaches us - John 14:26; 16:13
- Convicts and Corrects - John 16:8, 2 Timothy 3:16
- Gives us Assurance - Romans 8:16; 1 John 3:24; 4:13
- Unifies the Church - Philippians 2:1-2; Ephesians 2:18, 22; 4:3

5. Questions for Reflection

- 5.1. Do you have the Holy Spirit?
- 5.2. If you have the Holy Spirit, do you see him working in your life?
- 5.3. What steps do I need to take to allow the Spirit work in my life more?
- 5.4. Where do I want to see the Spirit work in my life?

6. Resources

- 6.1. Forgotten God - Francis Chan
- 6.2. The Good News We Almost Forgot - Kevin DeYoung
- 6.3. Systematic Theology - Wayne Grudem (Chapter 14 and 30)