

Opening passage:

John 3:1-8 - “Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” 3 Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” 4 Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” 5 Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

What does Jesus teach us about the person & work of the Holy Spirit?

A. To be saved is equal to being reborn of the Holy Spirit (John 3:5) - “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.”

B. The life led by the Holy Spirit cannot be fully explained (John 3:7-8) - “Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

C. He will teach the followers of Jesus (Jn. 14:26) - “The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.”

D. His ministry will bear witness to Jesus Christ (Jn. 15:26) - “But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness about Me.”

E. We are advantaged by His presence and ministry (John 16:7-8) - “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 go, I will send Him to you.”

F. He will actively work with non-believers (John 16:8-11) - “When He comes, He will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see Me no longer; 11 concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.”

G. He will guide believers into all truth (John 16:12-13) - “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth...”

H. The Spirit of God communicates in complete agreement with the Son of God (John 16:13-15) - “...He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak, and He will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that He will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

I. He will empower believers to become advancing witnesses for His name (Acts 1:8) - “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

J. The Holy Spirit has unique messages for different local churches (2:7, 2:11, 2:17, 2:29, 3:6, 3:13, 3:22) - “Hear what the Spirit says to the churches...”