

The Holy Spirit and You – Spiritual Empowerment Part-4

When we concluded our discussions last week, we were looking at 1 Cor. 14:20-25, and the value of speaking in tongues vs. prophecy in a known language as regards listening unbelievers & listening believers.

Looking at the Person of the Holy Spirit

Dr. Paul Walker: “This sign [of speaking in tongues] could be in languages either known or unknown to human beings (**Acts 10:44-46 TPT** “*While Peter was speaking, the Holy Spirit cascaded over all those listening to His message. 45. The Jewish brothers who had accompanied Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on people who weren’t Jews, 46. For they heard them speaking in supernaturally given languages and passionately praising God.*” **TPT note:** “This is the gentile Pentecost as the Holy Spirit fell on gentile believers for the first time, imparting to them the gift of tongues.”

Read Acts 2:1-11 TPT. V. 3 TPT note: “This was the pillar of fire that led Israel from bondage into the promised land. The same pillar of fire manifested here to initiate a new beginning from dead religious structures into the powerful life of the Spirit. Each believer received an overpowering flame of fire, signified by the shaft of light that engulfed them. It was as though each one received his own personal pillar of fire that would empower him and lead him throughout his life. This was the promise Jesus gave to his disciples of “*the One like Me*” (**John 14:26***), who would be sent by the Father and never leave them. Today every believer is indwelt by the Spirit of Christ (**Rom. 8:9****). This was the birthday of the church of Jesus Christ.”

***John 14:26 TPT** “*But when the Father sends the Spirit of Holiness, the One like me Who sets you free, He will teach you all things in My name. And He will inspire to remember every word that I’ve told you.*”

****Rom. 8:9 TPT** “*But when the Spirit of Christ empowers your life (or “makes His home in you”) you are not dominated by the flesh but by the Spirit. And if you are not joined to the Spirit of the Anointed One, you are*

not of Him (TPT: “This is an unusual Greek clause that can be translated “If anyone is not joined to the Spirit of Christ, he cannot be himself.” A similar construction is used in Luke 15:17: “*The prodigal son came to himself* (AMPC).” Let’s invite Holy Spirit to make His home in us now! For without be-ing joined to the Spirit, we cannot become who God originally created us to be.

Paul Walker: “In all these respects, we see the Holy Spirit as One who operates in the church as a definite personality – a Person given as a gift to the church **to assure that the continued ministry of the resurrected Christ is expressed & verified.** The Holy Spirit, then, has all the characteristics of a person:

1. He possesses the attributes of mind (**Rom. 8:27 TPT** “*God, the searcher of the heart*, knows fully our longings, yet He also understands the desires of the Spirit, because the Holy Spirit passionately pleads before God for us, His Holy ones, in perfect harmony with God’s plan and our destiny.*”). ***TPT:** “Or, “*God the heart-searcher.*” God searches our hearts not just to uncover what is wrong, but to fulfill the true desire of our hearts to be fully His. Grace triumphs over judgment.”

will (**1 Cor. 12:11 TPT:** “*Remember, it is the same Holy Spirit who distributes, activates, and operates these different gifts as He chooses for each believer.*”), and feeling (**Eph. 4:30 TPT:** “*The Holy Spirit of God has sealed you in Jesus Christ until you experience your full salvation. So never grieve* the Spirit of God or take for granted His holy influence in your life.*” *TPT note: “The Greek manuscripts have “do not grieve,” while the Aramaic text reads “do not limit His scope.” This translation includes both concepts.”).

2. He engages in such activities as:
revealing (**2 Pet. 1:20-21 TPT** “*You must understand this at the outset: Interpretation of scriptural prophecy requires the Holy Spirit, for it does not originate from someone’s own imagination [see note d.]. 21. No true prophecy comes from human initiative but is inspired by the moving of the Holy Spirit*

upon those (some Gk manuscripts have “holy men” and women) who spoke the message that came from God.”;

teaching (John 14:26 TPT *“But when the Father sends the Spirit of Holiness, the One like Me who sets you free (“The Aramaic is translated “the Redeemer from the curse.” See the second footnote on **John 14:16-17 TPT**), He will teach you all things in My Name. And He will inspire you to remember every word that I’ve told you.”;*

witnessing (Heb. 10:14-17 TPT *“And by His one perfect sacrifice He made us perfectly holy (or “we are being made holy”) and complete for all time! The Holy Spirit confirms this to us by this Scripture, for the Lord says, 16. “Afterwards, I will give them this covenant: I will embed My laws into their hearts and fasten my Word to their thoughts. 17. And then He says, “I will not ever again remember their sins and lawless deeds!”);*

interceding (Rom. 8:26 *“And in a similar way, the Holy Spirit takes hold of us in our human frailty) to empower us in our weakness. For example, at times we don’t even know how to pray, or know the best things to ask for. But the Holy Spirit rises up within us to super-intercede on our behalf, pleading to God with emotional sighs (or “groanings”; see v. 26 note d.) too deep for words.”;*

speaking (Rev. 2:7 TPT *“The one whose heart is open let him listen carefully to what the Spirit is saying now to all the churches [including everyone today, not just a specific church or for a specific period of church history]).”;*

commanding (Acts 16:6, 7 TPT *“The Holy Spirit had forbidden Paul and his partners to preach the word in the southwestern provinces of Turkey (or “Asia”), so they ministered throughout the region of central and west-central Turkey (“Phrygia and Galatia”). 7. When they got as far west as the borders of Mysia, they*

repeatedly attempted to go north into the province of Bithynia, but again the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to enter. So instead they went right on through the province of Mysia to the seaport of Troas.”);

and testifying (John 15:26 TPT *“And I will send you the Divine Encourager from the very presence of My Father. He will come to you, the Spirit of Truth, emanating from the Father, and He will speak (or “provide evidence) to you about Me. 27. And you will tell everyone the truth about Me, for you have walked with Me from the start.”).*”

3. He has a relationship with human beings: He can be grieved (**Eph. 4:30**), lied to (**Acts 5:3**), & blasphemed (**Matt. 12:31, 32**).

4. The Holy Spirit possesses the divine attributes of the Godhead: He is eternal (**Heb. 9:14**), omnipresent (**Ps. 139:7-10**), omnipotent (**Luke 1:35**), and omniscient (**1 Cor. 2:10, 11**).

5. He is referred to by such names as the Spirit of God, the Spirit of Christ, the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit of promise, the Spirit of truth, the Spirit of grace, the Spirit of life, the Spirit of adoption, and the Spirit of holiness.

6. He is illustrated with such symbols as fire (**Acts 2:1, 2**), wind (**Acts 2:1, 2 NKJV**), water (**John 7:37-39**), a seal (**Eph. 1:13**), oil (*“anointed,”* **Acts 10:38**), and a dove (**John 1:32**).

Paul Walker: “All this unfolds something of the vast realm of [Holy] Spirit’s operation in the Old and New Testaments and in the contemporary church.”