

I. Immaterial, Personal, Eternal

A. The Holy Spirit is not composed of matter

1. John 4:24
2. John 3:8
  - a) **Πνεῦμα** (pneuma) - Spirit, Wind, Breath
  - b) "Spirit" is a mode of being which lies ever outside of the mind's ability to fully understand. For we perceive that spirit can penetrate matter, it can penetrate the mind and heart, and spirit can even penetrate spirit!

B. The Holy Spirit is a Person

1. On at least 10 occasions the New Testament writers use the personal pronoun for the Holy Spirit rendered in our English bibles as "he." (i.e John 15-16).
2. Several times particular acts of Divine will are ascribed to the Holy Spirit (i.e Acts 20:28, 1 Cor 12:11)
3. Several times the Holy Spirit is said to be pleased or displeased with something (i.e. Acts 15:28, Eph 4:30-31).
4. In Several instances the Holy Spirit is the divine speaker (i.e. Acts 13:2, 21:11).
  - a) "I welcome any work or manifestation of the Spirit as long as He 'believes' he's the one doing it!"

C. The Holy Spirit is Eternal

1. **Heb 9:14 "how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God." (ESV)**
2. The Holy Spirit is Himself described to be God (i.e 1 Cor 2:10-12, Acts 5:3-4).

II. Consulting the Creed

A. I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us men for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen. (Nicene Creed 325 A.D.)

1. The Creed tells us something about the Spirit which is anathema to think such of any force or power or of any person!
  - a) Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life. . who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified
  - b) Even the mention of admitting a mere man into the status of that Holy trinity ought to be anathema to you!
2. What about the lyrics of an old hymn?
  - a) "Holy Ghost, with light divine, shine upon this heart of mine. Holy Ghost with power divine, Cleanse this guilty heart of mine.  
Holy Spirit all divine, dwell within this heart of mine;  
Cast down every idol throne, reign supreme and reign alone."
3. What about the "baptismal formula?"

- a) Matt 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,"

### III. Why Holy?

- A. 3 Times in the Old Testament we find the phrase "Holy Spirit"
- B. An exact phrase search in the New Testament yields 90 results!
  - 1. That He is the Holy Spirit means that He is unlike any other Spirit, or Person in all existence. It means that He is not exactly like anyone or anything else!
  - 2. It means that He stands alone!
  - 3. The New Testament at every turn wants you to make no mistake, "any other thing we may attribute to the Spirit of God is not simply reproducible. The work that He is able to bring about in the soul of man can't just be had somewhere else!"
  - 4. He is the Spirit of "the Holy One of Israel."
- IV. For the believer, sealed and indwelt by the Holy Spirit, there is a sense in which even if you were to be caught up into heaven right now- into that torrent of lightning, fire, and thunder- before God's throne surrounded with creatures and angels- you would not be any closer to God than you are right now - in your justification or your position before Him.
  - A. One day you'll have a new body with which to feel and take in all the magnitude of it.
  - B. But what good news is it that the Holy Spirit has penetrated the dead and dull spirits of all who believe making us even now to pass from death to life? That for the believer, eternal life doesn't begin after death it has begun now! The life to come has come now, on the inside, to anyone who believes.