

**A
STUDY
OF THE
HOLY
SPIRIT**

Lesson Outline
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Study of the Holy Spirit

- A. Welcome to a study regarding one of the three personalities of the God Head. Much has been taught in our classrooms about God and Christ Jesus. Little serious study has been expended regarding the Holy Spirit. You are to be commended for seeking to learn more about the trinity.
- B. We will not exhaust everything that can be said about Him, but we will study about Him from many different angles.
- C. These are the lessons we plan to present on the subject.
 - 1. **Introduction**
 - 3. **The Personality of The Holy Spirit**
 - 6. **The Deity of The Holy Spirit**
 - 9. **The Work of The Holy Spirit**
 - 12. **The Promise of The Holy Spirit**
 - 15. **The Measures of The Holy Spirit**
 - 18. **The gifts of The Holy Spirit**
 - 24. **The Indwelling of The Holy Spirit**
 - 31. **The Leading of The Holy Spirit**
 - 37. **The Sins Against The Holy Spirit**
 - 43. **The Fruit of The Holy Spirit**
 - 46. **The Holy Spirit – Then & Now**

A Study of the Holy Spirit

INTRODUCTION

1. This lesson begins a series of lessons on the Holy Spirit...
2. An understanding and appreciation of the Holy Spirit is indeed important.

I. THE PROMINENCE OF THE SPIRIT IN "THE BIBLE"

A. HIS MENTION IN THE OLD TESTAMENT...

1. The O.T. mentions the Holy Spirit **88 times**
2. **23 books** in the O.T. refer to the Holy Spirit

B. HIS MENTION IN THE NEW TESTAMENT...

1. The N.T. mentions the Holy Spirit **264 times**
2. **60** or more references in the **gospels**
3. **Acts** has **57 references**
4. The **epistles** refer to the Holy Spirit **132 times**

II. THE PROMINENCE OF THE SPIRIT IN "THE LIFE OF CHRIST"

A. HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE BIRTH OF JESUS...

1. Jesus was conceived of the Holy Spirit in the womb of Mary - **Matthew 1:20; Luke 1:30-35**
2. Various individuals were filled with the Spirit to make pronouncements about His birth.

B. HIS PRESENCE AT THE BAPTISM BY JOHN...

1. Descended in bodily form like a dove **Luke 3:21-22**
2. Even "alighting upon Him" - **Matthew 3:16**

C. HIS PRESENCE DURING THE TEMPTATIONS IN THE WILDERNESS...

1. Jesus was "filled with the Holy Spirit" - **Luke 4:1**
2. He was "led by the Spirit" into the wilderness **Luke 4:1; Matthew 4:1**

D. HIS POWER DURING JESUS' MINISTRY...

1. Jesus returned from His temptations "in the power of the Spirit" to teach in the synagogues - **Luke 4:14-15**
2. He applied Isaiah's prophecy to Himself, which said "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me..." - **Luke 4:16-21**
3. On one occasion it is said that Jesus "rejoiced in the Spirit" - **Luke 10:21**
4. Jesus claimed to cast out demons by the power of the Holy Spirit - **Matthew 12:28**

III. THE PROMINENCE OF THE SPIRIT IN "THE CHRISTIAN'S LIFE"

A. HIS INVOLVEMENT IN OUR BECOMING CHRISTIANS...

1. We are convicted of sin by the Holy Spirit **John 16:7-8**
2. We are "born again" of the Spirit - **John 3:5-8**
3. We are "renewed" of the Holy Spirit - **Titus 3:4-6**

B. HIS PRESENCE IN OUR LIVES AS CHRISTIANS...

1. We "live in the Spirit" - **Galatians 5:25**
2. We are to "walk in the Spirit", producing the "fruit of the Spirit"
Galatians 5:16-18,22-23,25
3. We must set our minds on "the things of the Spirit" **Romans 8:5-6**

[Future lessons will discuss these thoughts in much greater detail.]

CONCLUSION

- a. It should be evident that our chosen subject is indeed an important one...
- b. Few subjects are more misunderstood than the Holy Spirit.

The Personality Of The Holy Spirit

INTRODUCTION

1. There is no subject more important in religion than that of the Holy Spirit.
2. Unless He is properly understood, a large portion of the Bible, and especially the NT, will remain confusing.
3. Despite its importance to understanding the scriptures as a whole, there is much confusion and superstition in the minds of many people about the Holy Spirit.
4. A good starting place is to consider who or what the Holy Spirit is...
5. The Bible reveals the Holy Spirit to be...
 - a. A "personal" being, possessing every trait of what we call "personality"
 - b. Not some "impersonal force" that emanates from God

I. THE HOLY SPIRIT'S WORKS MANIFEST PERSONALITY

A. THE HOLY SPIRIT SPEAKS...

1. He "expressly says" that some will depart from the faith – **1 Timothy 4:1**
2. The Spirit spoke and gave directions to Philip - **Acts 8:29**
3. He spoke to Peter and gave him charge concerning the Gentiles – **Acts 10:19-20**
4. He spoke to the brethren at Antioch concerning Paul and Barnabas – **Acts 13:1-4**

B. THE HOLY SPIRIT TEACHES...

1. He was to teach the apostles all things - **John 14:26**
2. Jesus consistently refers to the Holy Spirit as "He", not "it" - **John 14:16-17**

C. THE HOLY SPIRIT BEARS WITNESS...

1. He was to testify of Jesus - **John 15:26-27**
2. Just as the apostles would bear witness, so also the Holy Spirit

D. THE HOLY SPIRIT GUIDES, HEARS, SPEAKS, TELLS, FORBIDS, INTERCEDES

1. He would carry on and complete the work started by Jesus – **John 16:12-13**
2. He prevented Paul and his companions from going into certain areas of Asia –
Acts 16:6-7
3. The "Spirit Himself makes intercession for us" - **Romans 8:26**
4. Just as Christ "also makes intercession for us" - **Romans 8:34**

II. THE HOLY SPIRIT POSSESSES PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

A. HE HAS A MIND, KNOWLEDGE

1. "the mind of the Spirit" - **Romans 8:27**
2. He "knows the things of God" - **1 Cor 2:11**

B. HE POSSESSES AFFECTION & A WILL...

1. Paul speaks of "the love of the Spirit" – **Romans 15:30**
2. "the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills" - **1 Cor 12:11**

III. THE HOLY SPIRIT SUFFERS PERSONAL SLIGHTS AND INJURIES

A. HE CAN BE GRIEVED, BLASPHEMED, INSULTED...

1. "do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God" - Ephesians 4:30
2. That is, to be spoken evil of, the "unforgivable sin" – **Matthew 12:31-32**

B. HE CAN BE INSULTED, LIED TO...

1. One who has "trampled the Son of God underfoot" has also "insulted the Spirit of grace" - **Hebrews 10:29**
2. This is done by sinning "willfully" Hebrews 10:26
3. As Ananias and his wife Sapphira were guilty of doing "why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit?" - **Acts 5:3**

E. HE CAN BE RESISTED...

1. As Stephen charged the Jewish leaders of doing - **Acts 7:51**
2. The resisted the message and persecuted the messengers. - **Acts 7:52-53**

CONCLUSION

1. The Bible presents the Holy Spirit as a personal being.
2. A mere principle or influence cannot sustain these slights, only a personal being.
3. We should regard the Holy Spirit as a "He", not an "it"!

The Deity Of The Holy Spirit

INTRODUCTION

1. In our last lesson we concluded that the Holy Spirit is a personal being.
2. We noted that His personality is manifested by: His works, His characteristics and the slights and injuries which He can suffer
3. In this lesson we shall present evidence that illustrates His deity

I. FOUR DIFFERENT CONCEPTS OF GOD

A. TRITHEISM...

1. This view holds that there are three gods
2. That is, that the "Father" is a god, the "Son" (Jesus) is a god, and the "Holy Spirit" is a god - three separate and distinct gods and function separately

B. ARIANISM...

1. Named after Arius, who lived in the fourth century A.D. and taught this view.
2. According to Arius...
 - a. God the Father existed from eternity
 - b. Jesus (God the Son) was created in time by the Father
 - c. The Holy Spirit is a creation of the Son

C. SABELLIANISM...

1. Named after Sabellius, who lived in the third century A.D.
2. This view holds that God is one person...
 - a. Who has manifested Himself in three different ways or three different modes
 - b. Not simultaneously, but successively;

D. TRINITARIANISM..

1. This is the doctrine of the trinity
 - a. The word trinity comes from the Latin "trinitas"
 - b. From another Latin word, trinus, which means "threefold"

- c. Meaning a triad, or "group of three", suggesting both unity and diversity
- 2. This view holds that God is one God...
 - a. But that the one God exists eternally in three persons
 - b. The doctrine of the trinity can be stated in three propositions
 - (1) God is one God
 - (2) The Son is fully God and is distinct from God the Father and God the Spirit
 - (3) The Spirit is fully God, is distinct from the Father and the Son, and is personal
- 3. This is the view held by most Catholics and Protestants today
- 4. Consider, (**Deuteronomy 6:4**)

II. WHAT THE BIBLE REVEALS ABOUT GOD

A. THE Father, Son and Holy Spirit are distinguishable

- 1. All were present, but in different forms, at Jesus' baptism – **Matthew 3:16-17**
- 2. In His teaching about the Holy Spirit, Jesus clearly makes a distinction – **Matthew 28:19; John 14:16,26; John 15:26**
- 3. Paul makes a distinction in his benediction in **2 Cor 13:14**
- 4. John refers to "both the Father and the Son" - **2 John 9**

B. The Bible clearly reveals that the Godhead is made up of three persons.

III. THE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT EACH POSSESS DEITY...

A. The Father is clearly God (deity) 1 Cor 1:3

B. The Son is also God (deity)- Matthew 1:21-23; John 1:1-3,14; Romans 9:5; Phil 2:5-6; Col 2:9; 1 Tim 6:14-16; Hebrews 1:8-12

C. The HOLY SPIRIT is Also a DIVINE BEING

- 1. HIS "ATTRIBUTES" REVEAL HIS DIVINE NATURE...
 - a. He is "omniscient" (knows all things) - 1 Cor 2:10-11
 - b. He is "omnipresent" (everywhere) - **Psalms 139:7-10**

c. He is called the "eternal" Spirit - **Hebrews 9:14**

2. HIS "WORKS" REVEAL HIS DIVINE NATURE...

a. He was involved in the "creation" of the world - **Genesis 1:2;**
Job 33:4

b. He was involved in the "working of miracles" -
Matthew 12:28; Romans 15:19

c. He was involved in the "redemption" of man - **Hebrews 9:14**

d. He is involved in the "regeneration" of man - **John 3:5;**
Titus 3:4-6

3. All this supports thinking of the Holy Spirit as deity. **Acts 5:3-4**

CONCLUSION

1. Admittedly, trying to comprehend the nature of God is difficult...

- a. It is like trying to comprehend the infinite reaches of the universe
- b. With our finite minds, both are impossible

2. For those who accept the Bible as inspired of God, we must...

- a. Let the Bible reveal the nature of God
 - (1) Accept what it reveals by faith
 - (2) Even when we cannot comprehend it
- b. Avoid developing a concept of God (and the Holy Spirit)
 - (1) Through humanistic and rationalistic thinking
 - (2) Twisting the Scriptures to fit such concepts

3. The Bible reveals the Holy Spirit as...

- a. A distinct personality, possessing all the attributes of deity
- b. Yet one in essence, substance, and purpose with the Father and the Son
- c. A member of what is called the "Godhead"; truly a "mind-boggling" concept!

The Work Of The Holy Spirit

INTRODUCTION

1. Thus far we have examined what the Bible reveals about the nature of the Holy Spirit...
 - a. The Holy Spirit is a personal being
 - b. The Holy Spirit is a divine being
2. In this lesson we will address the work of the Holy Spirit...

I. THE SPIRIT'S WORK IN CREATION

A. INVOLVED IN THE CREATION OF THE UNIVERSE...

1. God used the Spirit in the creation of the world – **Genesis 1:2; Psalms 104:30**
2. God used the Spirit in the creation of the heavens - **Job 26:13; Psalms 33:6**

B. INVOLVED IN THE CREATION OF MAN...

1. In the creation of the first man **Gen 1:26-27**
2. In the creation of every man - **Job 33:4**

II. THE SPIRIT'S WORK IN REVELATION

A. IN OLD TESTAMENT TIMES...

1. The prophets of old spoke as they were moved by the Spirit - **2 Peter 1:20-21;**
(example) **2 Sam 23:2**
2. The Spirit was in them, testifying of things to come - **1 Peter 1:10-11;**
(example) **Isa 53:4-6**

B. IN THE NEW TESTAMENT TIMES...

1. The Spirit was to guide the apostles into all the truth – **John 14:26; 16:12-13**
2. This the Spirit did - **1 Cor 2:10-13; 1 Tim 4:1-3**

III. THE SPIRIT'S WORK IN CONFIRMATION

A. CONFIRMING JESUS AS THE CHRIST...

1. Jesus was attested by God through the miracles He performed - **Acts 2:22**

2. The Spirit worked with Christ to confirm His work - **Acts 10:38; Matt 12:28; Luke 4:18-21**

B. CONFIRMING THE APOSTLES OF CHRIST...

1. Confirming their message, through gifts given by the Spirit - **Hebrews 2:3-4**
2. As they traveled about proclaiming the gospel of God - **Romans 15:19**

IV. THE SPIRIT'S WORK IN REGENERATION

A. AS THE WORD WAS PREACHED...

1. The Spirit was doing His work of convicting the world - **John 16:8**
2. For example, consider the events on the day of Pentecost **Acts 2:4-36**

B. AS THE WORD WAS OBEYED...

1. Those who obeyed the Spirit's Word were baptized - cf. **Acts 2: 38-41**
2. In their baptism, they experienced a "washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit" - **Titus 3:5-7; 1 Cor 6:11**

V. THE SPIRIT'S WORK IN SANCTIFICATION

A. IN OUR INITIAL SANCTIFICATION...

1. Sanctification involves the idea of being "set apart", "consecrated"
2. Sanctification began in conjunction with our washing and justification - **1 Cor 6:11**

B. IN OUR ONGOING SANCTIFICATION...

1. Sanctification is an ongoing work **Hebrews 2:11; 10:14**
2. The Spirit plays an important role in living holy lives
 - a. God strengthens us by His Spirit in our inner man - **Eph 3:16**
 - b. It is with aid of the Spirit that we put to death the deeds of the body **Romans 8:11-13; Colossians 3:5-9**

CONCLUSION

1. In this brief survey we have seen the work of the Holy Spirit in regards to...
 - a. Creation
 - b. Revelation
 - c. Confirmation
 - d. Regeneration
 - e. Sanctification
2. Our purpose in this lesson has not been to provide an exhaustive survey...
3. Our future lesson will expand on some of these themes.

The Promise Of The Holy Spirit

INTRODUCTION

1. It is evident that the Holy Spirit has been at work throughout...
 - a. The history of mankind
 - b. The redemption of mankind
2. Of special interest is the working of the Holy Spirit in the Christian dispensation.

I. THE PROMISE OF THE SPIRIT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

A. THE PROPHECY OF JOEL...

1. Recorded in **Joel 2:28-32**
2. The elements of this prophecy included:
 - a. The Spirit being poured out on all flesh **Joel 2:28**
 - b. Sons and daughters of Israel prophesying and Israel's young and old men seeing visions and dreaming dreams - **Joel 2:28**
 - c. God's Spirit being poured out upon His menservants and maidservants (including Gentiles?) and their prophesying - **Joel 2:29**

B. THE PROPHECIES OF ISAIAH...

1. One recorded in Isaiah 44:3-5 (ca. 750 B.C.)
2. Elements of this prophecy include:
 - a. God pouring His Spirit upon Israel's descendants - **Isaiah 44:3**
 - b. Connecting the promise of the Spirit with the figure of water given to him who is thirsty - **John 7:37-39**

C. THE PROPHECIES OF EZEKIEL...

1. One recorded in **Ezekiel 36:26-27**
2. Elements of this prophecy:
 - a. God promises to put His Spirit "within you" (an indwelling)
 - b. It will cause (enable) one to walk in His statutes and keep His judgments - **Romans 8:11-13; Eph 3:16**

D. THE PROPHECY OF ZECHARIAH...

1. Recorded in **Zechariah 12:10**
2. Elements of this prophecy:
 - a. The Spirit of grace and supplication to be poured out on the inhabitants of Jerusalem
 - b. Prompting people to look upon Jesus whom they have pierced, and mourn because of Him - **Acts 2:32-37**

II. THE PROMISE OF THE SPIRIT IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

A. THE PREACHING OF JOHN THE BAPTIST...

1. He spoke of One coming who would "baptize you with the Holy Spirit" **Matt 3:11; Mark 1:7-8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33**
2. While he himself administered a baptism in water, there was One coming who would be the administrator of a baptism with the Holy Spirit.

B. THE TEACHING OF JESUS CHRIST...

1. The Spirit would be given to those who ask the Heavenly Father – **Luke 11:13**
2. The Spirit would be given as "living water" to all those who thirst and come to Him in faith, and drink - **John 7:37-39**
3. To His apostles, Jesus promised the "**Spirit of truth**" - **John 14:16-17**.
4. Jesus told His apostles to wait in Jerusalem until they received the "**Promise of the Father**" - **Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-5**

C. THE PREACHING OF PETER...

1. On Pentecost, Peter ties the outpouring of the Spirit to the prophecy of Joel - **Acts 2:14-16**
2. Then, in the course of his sermon, Peter...
 - a. Speaks of the outpouring of the Spirit as a promise Jesus received from the Father **Acts 1:4-5; 2:33**
 - b. Offers the gift of the Spirit to all who repent and are baptized - **Acts 2:38**

CONCLUSION

1. In this study we have seen the following...
 - a. Old Testament prophets promised a special dispensation of the Spirit to come.
 - b. John and Jesus promised a baptism of the Spirit, administered by Jesus
 - c. Peter in his first gospel sermon proclaims this promise to be fulfilled with the outpouring of the Spirit - **Acts 2:16,33**
2. The promise of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit was to provide certain individuals the power and abilities to carry out the plan of God. - **1 Cor 12: 3-6**

The Measures of The Holy Spirit

INTRODUCTION

1. In our previous lesson, we considered the **promise** of the Holy Spirit...
 - a. By prophets in the Old Testament
 - b. By John and Jesus as they spoke of the Holy Spirit
 - c. By Peter in his sermon on the day of Pentecost in **Acts 2**
2. This naturally raises a few questions...
 - a. Does this mean the baptism of the **Holy Spirit** is for us today?
 - b. What exactly is the baptism of the Holy Spirit?

I. COMMON VIEWS OF THE "BAPTISM"

A. AN EVENT THAT OCCURRED BUT A FEW TIMES...

1. On the day of Pentecost (**Acts 2**)
2. At the conversion of Cornelius and his household, the first Gentiles - **Acts 10,11**
3. Some would add a third occurrence involving Saul **Acts 9**
4. Others might include what happened in Samaria and Ephesus

B. AN EVENT THAT OCCURS AT CONVERSION...

1. Some would insist that when a person is saved, they are at that moment "baptized" with the Holy Spirit
2. Many understand that speaking in tongues is a sign of this "baptism" of the Spirit.
3. Some even say that the Baptism of Holy Spirit is necessary to be truly saved.

II. THE BIBLICAL VIEW OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- A. The Bible is very plain regarding the giving of the Holy Spirit.
- B. The Holy Spirit was given by measures to those whom God selected.

C. *JESUS RECEIVED THE SPIRIT WITHOUT MEASURE:*

1. Spirit was received by Christ - **John 3:34**

2. Things Christ did by the Spirit

a. Led by the Spirit - **Matt 4:1**

b. Cast out devils by the Spirit - **Matt 10:28**

c. Jesus offered himself to God through the Spirit - **Heb 9:14**

D. THE APOSTLES RECEIVED THE BAPTISMAL MEASURE OF THE SPIRIT:

1. Was promised in the Old and New Testaments:

a. Prophet Joel – **Joel 2:28**

b. John the Baptist – **Matt 3:11**

c. Christ - **Mark 9:1; Luke 24:47; John 14:26; 15:26**

2. BEGAN ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST...

a. Jesus poured out the Spirit on "all flesh" - **Acts 2:17,33**

b. The initial results of the Spirit's outpouring on Pentecost. **Acts 2:1-4**

c. Then at the house of Cornelius. **Acts 10:44-46**

d. The Spirits work continued through the hands of men.

(1) Samaritans **Acts 8:14-18**

(2) Ephesians- **Acts 19:1-6**

E. SOME RECEIVED THE LAYING ON OF HANDS MEASURE:

1. Although there are no prophecies regarding the "laying on of hands" measure of the Holy Spirit, God used this measure to continue his working with man.

2. This miraculous gift of the Holy Spirit was administered by the apostles.

a. The seven – **Acts 6:1-7**

b. Christians in Samaria - **Acts 8:14-19**

c. The 12 in Ephesus – **Acts 19:6**

d. Timothy – **2 Tim 1:6**

F. WHEN DID THESE SPIRITUAL GIFTS CEASE?

1. The scriptures are plain regarding the purpose and duration of miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit.
2. Only Christ received the Holy Spirit without measure. - **John 3:34**
3. The Apostles received the Holy Spirit by the baptismal measure – **Matt 3:11**
Luke 24:46-49; Acts 1:8
4. Others were especially endowed by the laying on the hands of the apostles.
Acts 6
5. These measures of the Holy Spirit ceased – **Eph 4:7-14**
 - a. When were they given – **4:8**
 - b. To Whom were they given – **4:11**
 - c. Why were they given – **4:12**
 - d. How long were they to last – **4:13**
6. Paul had much to say about the duration of the miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit
 - a. **1 Corinthians 12** – names the gifts
 - b. **1 Corinthians 13** - tells when they were to end
 - c. **1 Corinthians 14** - reveals their proper use.

CONCLUSION:

1. The miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit were a key element of God's plan to redeem man
 - a. The ministry of Jesus was guided by the Holy Spirit.
 - b. The miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit were necessary to preach the word.
 - c. The Spiritual gifts were necessary to the coming of the word.
2. The gift of the Holy Spirit as described in **Acts 2:38** will be discussed in a future lesson "**THE INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**"

The Gifts Of The Holy Spirit

INTRODUCTION

1. In previous lessons we made frequent reference to the "gift" of the Spirit...
 - a. Promised to all who repent and are baptized - **Acts 2:38-39**
 - b. Referring to the gift of the Spirit Himself - **John 7:39; Acts 5:32; Gal 4:6**
 - c. Pertaining to the indwelling of the Spirit in the church and in the Christian
1 Cor 3:16; 6:19
2. The Bible also speaks of the "gifts" of the Spirit, which is not the same as the "gift" of the Spirit...
3. In this study, we shall focus our attention on the "gifts" of the Spirit...
 - a. What were the gifts?
 - b. How did people receive the gifts?
 - c. What was the purpose of the gifts?
 - d. How long were the gifts to last?

I. WHAT WERE THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS?

A. DESCRIBED BY PAUL... (1 Cor 12:8-11)

1. "word of wisdom" - ability to speak new revelations of divine wisdom,
1 Cor 2:6-10
2. "word of knowledge" - ability to speak truths already revealed, **1 Cor 14:6**
3. "faith" - not saving faith, but faith to perform miracles, **1 Cor 13:2; Mark 11:23**
4. "gifts of healing" - ability to heal all kinds of sickness, **Matt 10:1**
5. "the working of miracles" - miracles of extraordinary power, **Acts 19:11**
6. "prophecy" - in this context, inspired disclosure of the future, **Acts 11:27-28; 21:11**
7. "discerning of spirits" - ability to tell whether another speaks from the Spirit, or from some other source, either human or demonic,
1 Cor 14:29; 1 Tim 4:1; 1 John 4:1

8. "kinds of tongues" - ability to speak in various languages, **Acts 2:4-11; 1 Cor 14:18**
9. "interpretation of tongues" - ability to interpret languages, **1 Cor 14:27**

B. DELINEATED BY PAUL...

1. These gifts are called "spiritual" (Grk., pneumatikos) - **1 Cor 12:1; 14:1**
 - a. Implying that which is of the Spirit, and not natural
 - b. They all come from the one and same Spirit - **1 Cor 12:11**
 2. They were "manifestations" of the Spirit - **1 Cor 12:7**
 - a. Manifest - conspicuous, plain; that which illustrates, or makes anything seen or known
 - b. These "spiritual" gifts were visible and audible evidences of the Spirit's influence
 - c. Perhaps in contrast to other "gifts" which were not as noticeable, but expressions of God's gracious "gifts" nonetheless - **Rom 12:3-8; 1 Peter 4:10-11**
 3. Not all Christians had these "spiritual" gifts; some may have had no such gift at all
 - a. Not all could speak in tongues - **1 Cor 12:28-30**
 - b. Some were even "ungifted" (NASB) - **1 Cor 14:16,23-24** ("uninformed", NKJV)
 4. Possession of these "spiritual" gifts did not ensure spiritual maturity
 - a. The brethren at Corinth came short in no gift - **1 Cor 1:4-7**
 - b. Yet they were noted for being "carnal" and "babes" - **1 Cor 3:1-4**
 5. These "spiritual" gifts could be abused, but also controlled
 - a. Used for personal benefit, contrary to their purpose (see below) - **1 Cor 14:1-5**
 - b. Used improperly, to the shame of the congregation - **1 Cor 14:23**
 - c. Used properly, to the edification of all - **1 Cor 14:26-32**
- Note: In this lesson we are talking about the "spiritual" gifts, those gifts that were a miraculous manifestation of the Spirit

II. HOW DID PEOPLE RECEIVE THE GIFTS?

A. FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT HIMSELF...

1. The Holy Spirit distributed the gifts to each one as He determined – **1 Cor 12:11**
2. Those with certain roles likely received more gifts; the apostles -. **1 Cor 14:18**
3. On special occasions, the Spirit came upon individuals and imparted gifts directly
 - a. The apostles, at Pentecost - **Acts 2:1-4**
 - b. The household of Cornelius, the first Gentiles - **Acts 10:44-46**

B. THROUGH THE LAYING ON OF HANDS...

- 1.. The Samaritans - **Acts 8:14-19**
2. The Ephesians - **Acts 19:6**
3. The Romans - **Rom 1:11**

C. ADDITIONAL GIFTS MAY HAVE BEEN RECEIVED THROUGH PRAYER...

1. Paul instructed some to pray that they might receive a gift. - **1 Cor 14:13**
2. Those who already the gift of tongues could pray to receive the gift of interpreting tongues - **1 Cor 14:13**
3. Could those who had not already received a gift pray for one?

III. WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF THE GIFTS?

A. TO REVEAL AND CONFIRM...

1. To reveal God's will and confirm that it was His will - **Mark 16:17-20;**
Heb 2:3-4
 - a. Some gifts revealed God's will (prophecy)
 - b. Other gifts confirmed God's will (tongues, miracles)
 2. Gifts were of little value unless truth was being revealed - **1 Cor 14:6**
 - a. Which is why prophesy was valued more highly than tongues - **1 Cor 14:5**
 - b. Especially when tongues were spoken without interpreters - **1 Cor 14:9-11**
- Spiritual gifts were an indication the process of revelation was not yet complete

B. FOR THE PROFIT OF ALL...

1. The gifts of the Spirit were for given "for the profit of all" - **1 Cor 12:7**
 - a. Not for personal or selfish reasons
 - b. But for the purpose of benefitting others
 2. Thus the purpose of these miraculous gifts were:
 - a. To instruct and edify the church - **1 Cor 14:3-4**
 - b. To convince unbelievers, e.g., speaking in tongues - **1 Cor 14:22; Acts 2:4-11**
- Spiritual gifts were designed to bless the whole church, not individuals

IV. HOW LONG WERE THE GIFTS TO LAST?

A. SPIRITUAL GIFTS WERE TO CEASE...

1. Prophecies were to done away (NASB) - **1 Cor 13:8**
2. Tongues would cease - **1 Cor 13:8**
3. Knowledge (**1 Cor 13:8**) will be done away (NASB) - **1 Cor 13:8**

B. WHEN THAT WHICH IS PERFECT IS COME...

1. What does "that which is perfect" refer to? - **1 Cor 13:9-10**
 - a. Some say Christ, alluding to the time of His return
 - b. Others say heaven, alluding to the same time period
2. The overall context suggests differently; note carefully.
 - a. The contrast between partial knowledge, and that which is perfect
1 Co 13:9-10
 - (1) "perfect" (teleios) means "brought to its end, finished; wanting nothing necessary to completeness; perfect..." (Thayer)
 - (2) There appears to be a contrast:
 - (a) Between the partial knowledge at the time it was being revealed through spiritual gifts
 - (b) And the time when such knowledge would be completely revealed (i.e., when God's revelation was final)

b. The contrast in the two illustrations used by Paul - **1 Cor 13:11-12**

(1) The first showing a contrast between infancy and maturity

(a) Spiritual gifts served during the infancy (beginning) of the church

(b) Once their purpose (to reveal and confirm) was complete, things necessary to the beginning of the church are done away

(2) The second showing a contrast between a vague image and a clear image

(a) During the period when knowledge of God's will was not yet complete, it was like looking at a dim mirror

(b) Once God's word was completely revealed, it would be like seeing oneself much more clearly

c. The contrast with what would remain - **1 Cor 13:13**

(1) While prophecies, tongues, and knowledge would cease, faith, love, and hope would "abide" (Grk., meno, "remain, dwell, continue, tarry, endure")

(2) To say Christ or heaven is "that which is perfect" makes Paul's point meaningless

(a) For there will be a time when spiritual gifts have ceased, while faith, love, and hope remain

(b) Yet when Christ or heaven comes, faith and hope will be no more!

(3) But if "that which is perfect" refers to completed revelation...

(a) Then faith, hope, and love, will continue until Christ returns

(b) Even though spiritual gifts have been done away

-- Spiritual gifts, so important to the beginning and establishment of the Lord's church, ceased once their purpose (to reveal and confirm God's Word) was completed

CONCLUSION

1. Spiritual gifts were important to the beginning of the church, the means by which the Lord...

a. Bore witness to His Word and His apostles - **Mark 16:19-20; Heb 2:3-4**

- b. Provided a full and final revelation of His Will - **2 Pet 1:3; Jude 3; 2 Tim 3:16-17**
- 2 . Yet spiritual gifts, the miraculous manifestations of the Spirit, were an integral part of God's plan to redeem man. By the coming of the Christ and the sending of the Holy Spirit God was able bring to man:
- a. The sword of the Spirit - **Eph 6:17**
 - b. Which in turn produces the "fruit" of the Spirit - **Gal 5:22-23**

The Indwelling Of The Holy Spirit

INTRODUCTION

1. Several passages speak of the Spirit given to the Christian...
 - a. Jesus promised the Spirit in some way that would be unique - **John 7:37-39**
 - b. Peter promised the Spirit to those who repent and are baptized
 - c. Other passages to consider are **Acts 5:32; Rom 5:5**
2. Such promises of the Spirit likely refer to what is called the **indwelling** of the Spirit.

I. THE FACT OF THE SPIRIT'S INDWELLING

A. THE SPIRIT DWELLS IN THE CHURCH.

1. The church is the temple of God, in which the Spirit dwells - **1 Cor 3:16**
2. The church is a dwelling place of God in the Spirit - **Eph 2:21-22**
3. God, by means of the Spirit, dwells in the spiritual temple, in the hearts of believers. This temple is composed of 'living stones' **1 Peter 2:5**)
4. Christians are built on the foundation of the apostles, prophets and Christ Jesus. Since the CHURCH is made up of Christians, the Church provides a dwelling place of God on earth. God dwells in this holy habitation in the person of the Spirit. - **Eph 2:22**

B. THE SPIRIT DWELLS IN THE CHRISTIAN...

1. Necessary to belonging to Christ, to receiving life in our mortal bodies - **Rom 8:9-11**
2. A reason to flee sexual immorality - **1 Cor 6:18-19**
 - a. The body is the temple of the Holy Spirit
 - b. What is said of the church as whole in **1 Cor 3:16**, is now said here of our bodies
3. **Thus the Spirit dwells in each Christian individually, which ought to inspire godly living**

[No Christian disputes the fact of the Spirit's indwelling. What is often disputed is...]

II. THE NATURE OF THE SPIRIT'S INDWELLING

A. THE ISSUE DEFINED...

1. Is the Spirit's indwelling literal, personal?
 - a. Does the Spirit literally dwell in the Christian?
 - b. Does He somehow personally reside in the body of each Christian?
2. Is the Spirit's indwelling mediated, through the Word only?
 - a. Does the Spirit figuratively dwell in the Christian?
 - b. Does He dwell in the Christian only in the sense that the Word abides in us?

B. ARGUMENTS FOR A LITERAL, PERSONAL INDWELLING.

1. Primary support for such a view - **1 Cor 6:18-19**
 - a. Note the **metaphor** used by Paul
 - (1) The body of the Christian is the "temple" of the Holy Spirit
 - (2) Just as the body is a tabernacle for our spirit - **2 Cor 5:1-4; 2 Pet 1:13-14**
 - (3) So also the body is a dwelling place for the Spirit of God
 - b. Note the **prepositions** used by Paul
 - (1) The Spirit is "in" the Christian
 - (2) The Christian has the Spirit "from" God
 - c. Note the **line of reasoning** used by Paul
 - d. **Through use of metaphor, prepositions, line of reasoning, Paul depicts the Spirit as dwelling in the body of the Christian**
2. Other passages for such a view
 - a. God has sent the Spirit "into" our hearts - **Gal 4:6**
 - b. God strengthens us by "His Spirit in the inner man" - **Eph 3:16**
 - (1) God is at work in us as we work out our salvation - **Phil 2:12-13; 4:13**
 - (2) One way He does this is by His Spirit in the inner man - **Eph 3:16**

C. ARGUMENTS FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT INDWELLING THE CHRISTIAN THROUGH HIS WORD.

1. Those that hold this view assert that the Spirit indwells **representatively** through the word of God.
2. The support for this view is as follows:
 - a. The word of truth is not just mere words; it is Spirit filled words.
John 6:63
 - b. The mode, the medium, the how – is the word of God. Alexander Campbell once said in a Debate: "The Spirit of God is ever present with His truth, operating in it, and through it, and by it. God and Christ never personally occupied anyone; and for the same reason the Holy Spirit does not personally occupy anyone"
 - c. One should not contend that God dwells actually and literally in the Christian.
2 Cor 6:16; 1 John 4:12,15
 - d. Christ dwells in our hearts by faith. **Rom 8:10, 10:17, Gal 2:20, Eph 3:17**
 - e. Thus when one fills his heart with the word of the Spirit, one is filled with the Spirit. **Eph 5:18; Col 3:16**
3. The Holy Spirit operates upon a person only by and through the Word of God.
 - a. Everything that the Spirit might do for a man directly He does through the word of truth.
 - (1). Gives faith through the word. **Rom 10:17**
 - (2). He enables us to enjoy the new birth. He does it through the word. **1 Peter 1:23**
 - (3). He saves us. He does it through the word. **James 1:21**
 - (4). He sanctifies us. He does it through the word. **John 17:17**
 - (5). He makes us free of sin. He does it through the word.
Rom 6:17,18
 - (6). There are more than 15 other such actions that are achieved in the life of the Christ by the Holy Spirit and He accomplishes each of these through the word.

4. To affirm that the Holy spirit dwells in the Christian only through means of divine truth does not imply:
 - a. That the Spirit and the word are the same. **Eph 6:17**
 - b. That prayer is ineffectual. **James 5:16**
 - c. That providence is nullified.
 - d. That the Holy Spirit is limited to the word in every activity. The fruits of the Spirit are prime examples of the working of the Spirit in the life of the Christian.

D. WHICH VIEW SHOULD WE SELECT AS THE ONE THAT IS SUPPORTED BY SCRIPTURE????

1. First and foremost, the Holy Spirit indwells the Christian. **Rom 8:8-11.**
2. The view we select must begin with this premise.
3. There are various and conflicting views about the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. There may be several views within this class.
4. Does that mean one of us is wrong?
5. Gus Nichols wrote: "I see no reason for disturbance among us over this question so long as all believe and teach that the Holy Spirit does dwell in faithful and obedient children of God in some way. The honest but misguided interpretations which may be made trying to show how the Spirit dwells in us should not, by those on either side, disrupt brotherly love and unity. There are many reasons why ones position as to how the Holy Spirit dwells in us should never be made a test of fellowship."
6. Moses E. Lard wrote in his Commentary on Romans. "The fact of it we accept, but venture no explanation. The Bible does not explain exactly how the Spirit dwells in us."
7. James Bales wrote in his book "The Holy Spirit and The Christian, P41 "We should accept the fact of the indwelling of the Spirit, but we should not try to explain it in such a way as to commit us to an unscriptural position. In fact, since God has not revealed an explanation, we cannot know that any human explanation is right. Faith not only accepts what God has revealed, but it is content to leave matters where the Bible leaves matters."

8. The Spirit indwells all who believe and obey the gospel whether we understand how or not.
9. Now that you are acquainted with the different views, does your view fit any of those discussed, or do you have a different view???

III. THE BENEFITS OF THE SPIRIT'S INDWELLING

A. WE ARE SEALED BY THE SPIRIT.

1. We have been "sealed" by the Holy Spirit of promise - **Eph 1:13; 2 Cor 1:21-22**
2. The word "seal" (Gr. sphragizo) - "mark (with a seal) as a means of identification. The mark which denotes ownership also carries with it the protection of the owner.
3. The word "seal" is used in several important senses
 - a. "A seal authenticates a document and proves its genuineness (e.g., notary public seal or seal of an official on a document)"
 - b. "It is a mark of ownership (e.g., seals on ancient jars, brands on animals)"
 - c. "It is a mark of security (e.g., railroad cars closed and sealed; medicine bottles)"
4. When a person obeys the gospel he is given the gift of the Holy Spirit. In this way God seals the person." **Acts 2:38; Eph 1:13**
5. **Giving us His Spirit may be how God's "seals" or "marks" us as one of His own - Gal 4:6**

B. WE HAVE THE SPIRIT AS AN EARNEST

1. The Spirit is given as an "earnest" (KJV) of our inheritance- **Ep 1:13-14; 2 Co 1:21-22**
 - a. Translated "guarantee" (NKJV)
 - b. Translated "pledge" (NASB, NRSV)
2. The word "earnest" (Gr. arrabon) - "first installment, deposit, down payment, pledge, that pays a part of the purchase price in advance, and so secures a legal claim to the article in question, or makes a contract valid.
3. **Vine** points out that the word is closely connected to the modern Greek word for engagement ring - Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words, Vol. II,
4. "The Holy Spirit is God's earnest (down payment) to the Christian as assurance of the complete promised inheritance."

- a. "There is no comfort here for the advocate of the impossibility of apostasy."
- b. "The Christian can 'grieve' the Spirit - **Eph 4:30**
- c. "We can forfeit the down payment and not receive the inheritance."

C. WE ARE STRENGTHENED BY THE SPIRIT.

- 1. God strengthens us by His Spirit in the inner man - **Eph 3:16**
- 2. It is by the Spirit we are able to put to death the deeds of the body - **Rom 8:13**
- 3. The Spirit helps in our weaknesses - **Rom 8:26**

D. WE ARE LED BY THE SPIRIT.

- 1. Necessary if we are to be the sons of God - **Rom 8:14**
 - 2. Necessary if we are not to fulfill the lust of the flesh - **Gal 5:16**
 - 3. Necessary if we are not to fall under condemnation of the law - **Gal 5:18**
- **How the Spirit leads, we shall examine more closely in the next lesson**

E. WE BEAR THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT.

- 1. The fruit of a person led by the Spirit includes love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control - **Gal 5:22-23**
 - 2. We can be filled with peace and all joy in believing, and abound in hope by the power of the Spirit - **Ro 15:13**
- **We will devote a complete lesson on the "Fruits of the Spirit"**

CONCLUSION

- 1. Exactly how the Spirit indwells the Christian may remain a mystery.
 - a. Many understand the indwelling as literal, with the Spirit personally abiding in the Christian
 - b. Others view it as figurative, the Spirit dwelling through the Word only
- 2. Whatever the exact nature of the Spirit's indwelling, we must be careful to.
 - a. Bring glory to God, by producing the fruit of the Spirit
 - b. Walk after the Spirit, being strengthened by the Spirit

3. Which we can do by being led by the Spirit, as we set our minds on the things of the Spirit - Rom 8:5-14

4. In our next study, we will look more closely at how the Spirit leads.

The Leading Of The Holy Spirit

INTRODUCTION

1. The Scriptures speak of the Christian being led by the Holy Spirit...
 - a. Those led by the Spirit are the sons of God - Rom 8:14
 - b. Those led by the Spirit are not under the law - Gal 5:18
2. How does the Spirit lead the Christian...?
 - a. Is it by the Word of God only?
 - b. Is it through feelings, impressions, visions, dreams, etc.?
3. Conflicting ideas on this subject is one reason for much religious confusion...
 - a. Many justify their beliefs and practices saying, "The Spirit led me to this..."
 - b. Catholic, Protestant, Pentecostal, non-Pentecostal, all claiming to be led by the Spirit
 - c. The word of God does not lead people into confusion - John 16:13; 1 Cor 14:33

I. HOW THE SPIRIT LEADS THE CHRISTIAN

A. THE SPIRIT LEADS BOTH EXTERNALLY AND INTERNALLY...

1. To whatever extent the Holy Spirit by His indwelling strengthens the human spirit to enable it to control the flesh, to that extent the leading is internal.

David Lipscomb and J.W. Shepherd, A Commentary on the NT Epistles, Vol. I, Romans, p.149(when commenting on Rom 8:14)

2. "But what kind of "leading" is here meant--an occult, internal, inexplicable leading, or an external, explicable one by the truth?

Moses Lard, A Commentary on Romans, p.264 (commenting on Rom 8:14)

3. "The Spirit leads both externally and internally. Externally, the Spirit supplies the gospel truth as set forth in the New Testament, and the rules and precepts therein found are for the instruction and guidance of God's children. Internally, the Spirit aids by ministering strength and comfort to the disciples in his effort to conform to the revealed truth and will of God.

J.W. McGarvey and Philip Y. Pendleton, Thessalonians, Corinthians, Galatians and Romans, p. 361(commenting on Rom 8:14)

4. "...Christ most likely refers here to an influence of the Spirit, over and above that which it exercises through the word of truth and the ordinary workings of Divine providence; an influence, by means of which it helps our infirmities (Rom 8.26); strengthens us with might even into the inner man (Eph 3.16); and enables us to bring forth abundantly in our lives the fruits of 'love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, fidelity, meekness, and temperance' (Gal 5.22,23).

Robert Milligan, *The Scheme of Redemption*, p.283 (commenting on John 7:38-39)

-- **Note the distinction made between an external and internal influence by which the Spirit leads; now let's take a closer look at this distinction...**

B. THE SPIRIT LEADS EXTERNALLY THROUGH THE WORD...

1. The Word is the instrument used by the Spirit to instruct and convict..

a. The Spirit was sent to convict the world - John 16:7-11

b. The Spirit guided the apostles into all the truth - John 16: 12-13; Acts 20:27;
2 Peter 1:3

(1) What the Spirit revealed, the apostles received and preached - 1 Cor 2:9-13

(2) What they received, they wrote that we might understand - Eph 3:3-5

(3) Thus the early church continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine -
Acts 2:42

c. Thus the Word is the "sword" (instrument) used by the Spirit - Eph 6:17

2. To resist the Word is to resist the Spirit...

a. As when Israel resisted the inspired word given through prophets - Acts 7:51-53

b. As when we resist the inspired word given through apostles - 1 Cor 14:36-37

3. When one sets their mind on the things of the Spirit (i.e., His revealed Word)...

a. They will live according to the Spirit - Rom 8:5

b. They will experience life and peace - Rom 8:6

4. When one walks in the Spirit (by heeding His Word)..

a. They will not fulfill the lust of the flesh - Gal 5:16

b. They will be thus led by the Spirit - Gal 5:18

c. They will so produce the fruit of the Spirit - Gal 5:22-25

C. THE SPIRIT LEADS INTERNALLY THROUGH HIS INDWELLING...

1. By strengthening the inner man...

a. God is at work in the Christian - Eph 3:20

b. Even as we are working out our own salvation - Phil 2:12-13; 4:13

c. The instrument by which God strengthens the Christian is His Spirit in the inner man - Eph 3:16

d. By His indwelling Spirit, we are able to put to death the deeds of the body
Rom 8:13

e. In this way the Spirit likewise leads us - Rom 8:14; Rom 8:11

2. In conjunction with the Word...

a. When we make effort to heed the Word, the Spirit aids us

(1) Supplying what strength we may need

(2) So that which is produced may rightly be called the "fruit" of the spirit

b. To illustrate, consider the development of a Christ-like character

(1) Peter reminds us of the need for diligence on our part - 2 Pet 1:5-10

(2) Paul explains these qualities produced are the "fruit" of the Spirit
Gal 5:22-23

II. HOW THE SPIRIT DOES NOT LEAD THE CHRISTIAN

A. THROUGH FEELINGS, INTUITION..

1. Many people believe their feelings or intuitions are "leadings" of the Spirit

2. Yet the Spirit did not lead people through such subjective means - Acts 16:6-7

a. If Paul and his companions had been led by their own feelings, they would have gone to Asia or Bithynia

b. In some audible or visible way, the Spirit forbade them

3. Much religious confusion is the result of failing to note this distinction

a. People appeal to "feelings" to justify their beliefs and practices

(1) The heart (emotions, feelings) can be a deceptive guide - Prov 28:26;
Jer 17:9

(2) What may "seem" to be right, may not be right - Prov 14:12,
e.g. Acts 26:9

b. Rather than appealing to the Word of God, the sword of the Spirit

(1) God is not the author of confusion - 1 Cor 14:33

(2) He has provided an objective standard by which to know the truth
2 Tim 3:16-17

(3) That standard is the Word of God, not one's feelings

B. THROUGH VISIONS, DREAMS...

1. Yes, God did at one time reveal truth through such means

a. As exemplified in the example we just considered - Acts 16: 9-10

b. As part of the Spirit's work in being poured out - Acts 2:17

2. But this was part of the process of revealing and confirming God's truth

a. Along with signs, wonders, and miracles -. Heb 2:3-4

b. Which confirmed whether such visions or dreams were from God

c. Which was a temporary process, finished when God's Word was complete
1 Cor 13:8-10

3. Even when such dreams and visions were used by God, tests were provided

a. Such as whether it was in harmony with God's revealed Word - Deu 13:1-5

b. Such as whether the dream came to pass - Deu 18:20-22

4. The Scriptures warn against the danger of being led astray by dreams

a. They can be vanity - Ecc 5:7

b. They be the tools of false prophets - Jer 23:25-32; Zec 10:2

c. They can be the product of our imagination - Jer 29:8

C. THROUGH ENLIGHTENMENT...

1. In order to understand the Word

a. Many believe that they need the Spirit's leading to understand the Bible

(1) Based upon a misapplication of 1 Cor 2:14

(a) Concluding one cannot understand the Bible without the leading of the Spirit

(b) Which leads to much religious confusion, because everyone claims the Spirit led them to this interpretation or that one

(2) The context is contrasting the apostles with philosophers

(a) Philosophers cannot know God's will simply by wisdom 1 Cor 1:18-20

(b) The apostles have received God's will by the Spirit. 1 Cor 2:6-14

(3) The "natural man" is simply one who does not have the benefit of the Spirit's revelation, whereas the "spiritual man" is one like Paul who did!

b. The Spirit has revealed God's will to us through the apostles and prophets

(1) When we read their writings, we can understand! - e.g., Eph 3:3-5

(2) When we read the apostles, we can know! - e.g., 1 John 5:13

c. We don't need the Spirit's help to understand what the Spirit Himself reveals!

(1) We simply need to have good and honest hearts – e.g., Acts 17:11

(2) We can certainly pray that God help us to be free from preconceived ideas so as to be completely open to His Word - e.g., Psa 119:18

2. In order to be led to new truth

a. Many believe the Spirit is leading His church into new truth

(1) Based upon a misapplication of John 16:13

(a) Believing the Spirit is still guiding us into new truth

(b) Which leads to much religious confusion, as people say the Spirit tells them to now accept homosexuality, leadership of women in the church, etc.

(2) The context is the work of the Spirit in the lives of the apostles

- (a) Jesus is preparing them for their work as apostles - John 16:1-7
 - (b) Together with the Spirit, they would be witnesses – John 15:26-27
 - (c) The Spirit would aid them in this task, reminding them of what Jesus taught, revealing the rest of what Jesus wanted them to know – John 14:25-26; 16:12-13
- b. The Spirit led the apostles into "all" the truth, just as Jesus said He would
- (1) Paul had received the "whole" counsel of God - Acts 20:27
 - (2) Peter had received "all things" that pertain to life and godliness – 2 Peter 1:3
 - (3) Jude said the faith was "once" (lit., once for all) delivered to the saints Jude 3

CONCLUSION

1. It is a wonderful blessing to be led by the Spirit...
 - a. As He guides us through His revealed Word
 - b. As He strengthens us through indwelling our bodies
2. It is a blessing to know...
 - a. That we have a Guide to direct us as we live in this world
 - b. That we have a Helper to strengthen us as needed

Sins Against The Holy Spirit

INTRODUCTION

1. We have seen where the Holy Spirit is certainly active in God's scheme of redemption.
 - a. Revealing and confirming the Word of Truth - Heb 2:3-4
 - b. Convicting hearts of sin through the Word - John 16:7
 - c. Regenerating those who respond to the gospel - John 3:5
 - d. Indwelling those who obey the gospel - Acts 2:38; 1 Cor 6:19
 - e. Leading those who walk in the Spirit - Gal 5:16-18,25
 - f. Producing the fruit of the Spirit in those so led - Gal 5:22-23
 - g. Strengthening those seeking to please God - Eph 3:16
 - h. Serving as a seal, marking Christians as God's own - Eph 1:13
 - i. Serving as an earnest (guarantee) of our inheritance - Eph 1:14
2. Because of the Spirit's activity, it is possible for us to sin against the Spirit...
 - a. We can resist the Spirit - Acts 7:51
 - b. We can quench the Spirit - 1 Thes 5:19
 - c. We can grieve the Spirit - Eh 4:30
 - d. We can insult the Spirit - Heb 10:29
 - e. We can blaspheme the Spirit - Matt 12:31-32

[Lest we be guilty of sinning against the Spirit, let's examine how such sins are possible...]

I. RESISTING THE SPIRIT

A. THE WARNING.

1. Stephen condemned his listeners for resisting the Spirit – Acts 7:51
2. How did they do this? By persecuting (i.e., resisting) the prophets - Acts 7:52
 - a. Who foretold the coming of Christ

b. In whom the Spirit of Christ was working - 1 Peter 1:10-11

B. THE APPLICATION...

1. The same Spirit led the apostles of Christ to preach the gospel- 1 Peter 1:12;
Rom 15:19

2. We can resist the apostles today

a. By refusing to obey their word - 1 Cor 14:37

b. By refusing to abide in their doctrine - Acts 2:42

-- Are we guilty of resisting the Spirit, by resisting the words of the apostles?

[Certainly those who refuse to obey the gospel are guilty of resisting the Spirit, but even those who are Christians can be guilty. Christians can also be guilty of...]

II. QUENCHING THE SPIRIT

A. THE WARNING...

1. Written to the church at Thessalonica - 1 Thes 5:19

2. How could they become guilty of this?

a. To quench means to extinguish, suppress, stifle

b. To whatever extent the Spirit was at work, they were not to suppress it

3. Two examples...

a. The Thessalonians were not to despise prophecies - cf. 1 Thes 5:20 ("Do not despise the words of the prophets" NRSV)

b. Timothy was encouraged not to neglect his gift - 1 Tim 4:14; 2 Tim 1:6

-- Suppressing (or neglecting) the Spirit's work is quenching the Spirit!

B. THE APPLICATION...

1. The Spirit is at work in our lives today

a. Teaching and guiding us through His revealed word - Eph 6:17

b. Strengthening us through His indwelling - Eph 3:16,20

c. Producing the fruit of the Spirit as we are so led - Gal 5:22-23

2. But we neglect or stifle the Spirit's effort...
 - a. When we fail to read and heed the Word of God
 - b. When we fail to pray, asking for strength
 - c. When we fail to produce the fruit of the Spirit-- Are we guilty of quenching the Spirit, through our own neglect?

[Another sin against the Spirit that Paul warned Christians about is...]

III. GRIEVING THE SPIRIT

A. THE WARNING...

1. Written to the Ephesians - Eph 4:30
2. What does it mean to grieve?
 - a. To make sorrowful, to affect with sadness
 - b. To offend
3. How could they grieve the Spirit?
 - a. By corrupt speech - cf. Eph 4:29
 - b. By bitterness, anger, evil speaking - cf. Eph 4:31-- When Christians sin, they grieve the Spirit who indwells them!

B. THE APPLICATION..

1. The Spirit desires to produce good fruit in Christians...
 - a. The fruit of graceful words that lift up others - Eph 4:29
 - b. The fruit of graceful conduct that bless those around us -. Eph 4:28,32
2. But we make the Spirit sorrowful every time...
 - a. Unwholesome words proceed from our mouths
 - b. We engage in conduct unbecoming those who have been sealed (marked) for the day of redemption!-- Are we guilty of grieving by our speech or conduct the Spirit who indwells us?

[As bad as it is for Christians to quench the Spirit (through neglect) or grieve the Spirit (through disobedience), it can get worse! We can even be guilty of...]

IV. INSULTING THE SPIRIT

A. THE WARNING...

1. Written to the Hebrews - Heb 10:29
 2. What does it mean to insult the Spirit of grace?
 - a. KJV, ASV, "despite the Spirit of grace"
 - b. NRSV, "outraged the Spirit of grace"
 3. The context pertains to willful sin - cf. Heb 10:26-31
 - a. Persistent sin with full knowledge and no desire to repent
 - b. Conduct that tramples Christ underfoot, and regards His blood a common thing
 - c. For which remains a fearful and fiery judgment
- Christians can become so hardened by sin that they insult the Spirit through outrageous conduct!

B. THE APPLICATION...

1. We need to be aware of the danger of apostasy - Heb 3:12-14
 - a. We can become hardened by the deceitfulness of sin
 - b. We can thereby depart from the living God
 - c. We must hold the beginning of our confidence (faith) steadfast till the end
Rev 2:10
 2. We become guilty of insulting the Spirit...
 - a. When we sin willfully, with full knowledge of our sin
 - b. When we have no desire to repent - Heb 6:4-8
- Sinning through ignorance or weakness grieves the Spirit, but sinning willfully insults the Spirit!

[Finally, we note that Jesus warned about...]

V. BLASPHEMING THE SPIRIT

A. THE WARNING...

1. Jesus told the Pharisees of the unforgivable sin - Matt 12:31-32
 - a. He had just healed a demon-possessed man - Matt 12:22-23
 - b. The Pharisees attributed His power to Beelzebub (Satan) - Matt 12:24
 - c. He illustrates the absurdity of their charge - Matt 12:25-28
 - d. He explains the implication and necessity of casting out demons by the Spirit of God
 - (1) The kingdom (rule or reign, power) of God has come - Matt 12:28
 - (2) For such to be complete, the strong man (Satan) must be bound - Matt 12:29
 - (3) This Jesus ultimately accomplished through His death and resurrection - John 12:31-33; Rom 14:9; Cor 2:15; Heb 2: 14-15; Rev 1:18
2. What is the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit?
 - a. It is attributing Jesus' power to an unclean spirit - Mark 3:28-30
 - b. It is ascribing the work of the Holy Spirit to Satan (B.W. Johnson)
3. Why is this sin unforgivable? When one concludes that Jesus' power was of the devil...
 - a. He has rejected the evidence which produces faith in Jesus
 - b. He has rejected the efforts by God to save those in sin

-- When one is willing to believe that Jesus was in league with the devil, saving faith is not possible!

B. THE APPLICATION...

1. We must be careful not to reject the testimony of the Spirit
 - a. He is the means by which God bore witness to Jesus - cf. Acts 10:38
 - b. Otherwise we can neglect that "great salvation" - cf. Heb 2:3-4
2. If we reject the testimony of the Holy Spirit...
 - a. We reject heaven's last effort to save man

b. We reject the evidence which convicts of sin

-- The consequences of rejecting the Spirit's testimony are serious, depriving one of the forgiveness found only in Christ!

CONCLUSION

1. Sins against the Holy Spirit can lead progressively into apostasy...

a. Resisting the Spirit can lead to quenching the Spirit

b. Quenching the Spirit can lead to grieving the Spirit

c. Grieving the Spirit can lead to insulting the Spirit

d. Insulting the Spirit can lead to blaspheming the Spirit

e. Blaspheming the Spirit leads to a condition where forgiveness is not possible

2. Note the sad condition of those in full-blown apostasy - cf. Heb 6:4-6

a. This passage describes those who at one time:

(1) Were enlightened

(2) Tasted the heavenly gift

(3) Become partakers of the Holy Spirit

(4) Tasted the good word of God

(5) Tasted the powers of the age to come

b. Yet they had fallen to the point:

(1) Where it was impossible to renew them to repentance

(2) Where they were crucifying again the Son of God, putting Him to open shame

How to prevent such a sad end? Make sure that we are not guilty of "The Sins Against The Holy Spirit"!

The Fruit Of The Holy Spirit

INTRODUCTION

1. During His ministry, Jesus promised the Spirit to those who believe on Him –
John 7:37-39
 - a. Fulfilling Scripture, perhaps the one in **Isa 58:11**
 - b. In what way does receiving the Spirit produce "rivers of living water"?
2. I believe the answer lies in the "fruit" of the Spirit, that which is born by one...
 - a. Who has received the "gift" of the Spirit
 - b. Who benefits from the "indwelling" of the Spirit
 - c. Who is "led" by the Spirit -- Which when produced, blesses himself and those around him
3. What is the "**fruit**" of the Spirit? **Gal 5:22-23** provides the answer

I. DEFINING THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

A. A MANIFOLD EXPRESSION OF GRACES...

1. **Love** - active good will, expressed toward God and man
2. **Joy** - gladness, delight, especially in response to God's grace
3. **Peace** - tranquility, harmony, both with God and our fellow man
4. **Longsuffering** - patience, forbearance, self-restraint in the face of provocation
5. **Kindness** - sweetness of temper that puts others at ease
6. **Goodness** - generosity that reaches beyond just giving what is one's due
7. **Faithfulness** - the virtue of reliability
8. **Gentleness** - a humble and kind demeanor that helps to calm another's anger
9. **Self-control** - the virtue of one who masters his desires and appetites

B. REGARDING THE EXPRESSION OF THESE GRACES...

1. Paul defines this as the "fruit" (singular) of the Spirit

- a. These graces produce one "fruit"
 - b. The human spirit may develop some of these graces
 - c. The Holy Spirit produces them all!
2. Paul's list of graces is likely not exclusive
- a. Other graces produced by the Spirit include righteousness, hope
Rom 14:17; 15:13
 - b. Peter instructed that certain graces be added to our lives; faith, virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, love.
2 Pet 1:5-8
3. How can we ensure that the Spirit produces this "fruit" in our lives? Paul provides the answer.

II. DEVELOPING THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

A. WE MUST WALK IN THE SPIRIT...

- 1. Otherwise we will fulfill the lust of the flesh - **Gal 5:16-17, 25-26**
 - a. Unable to do the things we want, such as produce the fruit of the Spirit
 - b. Producing instead the works of the flesh, which prevent true love, joy, peace, etc.
- 2. This we do by minding the things of the Spirit - **Rom 8:4-6**
 - a. Those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit, such as the Word which the Spirit reveals.
 - b. Spiritually minded, they experience true life and peace

-- With minds focused on the Word of God, living in harmony with what the Spirit teaches through the Word, we will walk in the Spirit

B. WE MUST BE LED BY THE SPIRIT...

- 1. Only then are we truly the sons of God - **Rom 8:14**
 - a. No longer enslaved to the flesh - **Rom 8:12**
 - b. But able to put to death the deeds of the flesh - **Rom 8:13**
- 2. Led by the Spirit:

a. Externally through the Word, as He instructs and convicts - **John 16:7-8;**
Eph 6:17

b. Internally through the indwelling, as He empowers and blesses - **Eph 3:16;**
Rom 15:13

3. Lest we overlook the obvious, two tools are essential to being led by the Spirit:

a. **The Word of God** - the Spirit instructs and teaches in no other way

b. **Prayer** - through which we can ask for strength from the Spirit - **Eph 3:16,20**

-- **Through obedience to the Word of God and faithful prayer, we
will be led by the Spirit to produce His fruit in our lives**

CONCLUSION

1. To the Samaritan woman, Jesus offered what He called "living water"
John 4:10-14

a. What He referred to also as "the gift of God"

b. Producing in those who drink, "a fountain of water springing up into
everlasting life"

2. Could Jesus be referring to the gift of the Spirit? Perhaps, for...

a. The Spirit is given to those who obey God - **Acts 2:38; 5:32**

b. Those who receive the Spirit, "out of his heart will flow rivers of living water"
John 7:37-39

3. Certainly the figure of "living water" is a fitting depiction of the fruit produced
by the Spirit in the life of the Christian...

a. Producing graces that spiritually refresh the Christian and those around him

b. Producing graces that certainly prepare the Christian for life everlasting

c. May we be diligent to so walk in the Spirit, and be led by the Spirit that the
fruit of the Spirit is produced in our lives

The Holy Spirit, Then And Now

INTRODUCTION

1. In this study we have discussed various aspects of the Holy Spirit...
 - a. Why such a study is important
 - b. The personality of the Spirit
 - c. The deity of the Spirit
 - d. The work of the Spirit
 - e. The promise of the Spirit
 - f. The sins against the Spirit
 - g. The gifts of the Spirit
 - h. The indwelling of the Spirit
 - i. The leading of the Spirit
 - j. The fruit of the Spirit
 - k. The measures of the Spirit
2. The Holy Spirit is certainly a challenging subject of study...
 - a. Which may explain the diversity of views that people have
 - b. Which ought to encourage a sense of caution and humility
3. Yet it is a much needed study, for many people...
 - a. Claim the Holy Spirit leads them in this way or that way
 - b. Base their faith upon what they believe the Spirit tells them

-- **But when such people come up with contradictory beliefs, something is wrong!**
4. Part of the difficulty may be a failure to distinguish between the work of the Spirit...
 - a. His work that was **temporary**, unique to the beginning of the church
 - b. His work that is **age-lasting**, continuing until Christ comes again

[In this final lesson, I wish to offer a summary with a focus on illustrating this distinction....]

I. THE HOLY SPIRIT THEN

A. THE PROMISE OF THE SPIRIT...

1. Promised by God (via Joel) - **Joel 2:28-29**
 2. Promised by John the Baptist - **Matt 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16**
 3. Promised by Jesus Himself - **Acts 1:4-5**
- **The fulfillment of the promise occurs on Pentecost - Acts 2:1-22, 32-33**

B. THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT...

1. As defined by John the Baptist - **Matt 3:11-12**
 - a. To serve as a winnowing fan in the hand of the Lord
 - b. Separating the wheat from the chaff, gathering the wheat into the barn
2. As defined by Jesus to His apostles
 - a. To guide them into all the truth - **John 16:12-13**
 - (1) By teaching them all things - **John 14:26**
 - (2) By reminding them what Jesus told them - **John 14:26**
 - (3) By bearing witness together with the apostles - **John 15: 26-27**

-- **This the Spirit did through signs and wonders, confirming the Word - Mark 16:17-20; Heb 2:3-4**
 - b. To convict the world - **John 16:7-11**
 - (1) Of sin - **John 16:9**
 - (2) Of righteousness - **John 16:10**
 - (3) Of judgment - **John 16:11**

-- **This the Spirit did through the preaching of the gospel - e.g., Acts 24:24-25**

C. THE BLESSINGS OF THE SPIRIT...

1. The gifts of the Spirit
 - a. Miraculous manifestations of the Spirit - **1 Cor 12:1,4-11**
 - b. Imparted by the laying on of the apostles' hands - e.g., **Acts 8:14-18; 19:1-7; Rom 1:11; 2 Tim 1:6**
 - c. Enjoyed by some, but not all
 - (1) Not all could heal, speak in tongues - **1 Cor 12:29-30**
 - (2) Some were "ungifted" (NASB) - **1 Cor 14:16,23**
 - d. For the benefit of all, not just the possessors of the gifts

(1) To reveal the truth - **1 Cor 14:6**

(2) To confirm the truth - **1 Cor 14:22**

e. Temporary in their duration

(1) To cease when knowledge is complete - **1 Cor 13:8-12**

(2) While faith, hope and love will remain - **1 Cor 13:13**

2. The anointing of the Spirit

a. Spoken of by Paul in **2 Cor 1:21**

b. Also by John in **1 John 2:20,27**

(1) Enabling one to know all things

(2) Not needing to be taught by anyone

c. Likely referring to those who possessed the gifts of the Spirit

3. The gift of the Spirit

a. Promised to all who obey - **Acts 2:38; 5:32**

b. More on this and related blessings in the next section

-- Many of these blessings were related to the process of revealing God's Word

[The promise, work, and blessings of the Holy Spirit had an amazing and miraculous beginning. While some of this proved temporary, much appears to be age-lasting, continuing until Christ returns. Our focus now turns toward that which should be of special interest to us today...]

II. THE HOLY SPIRIT NOW

A. THE PROMISE OF THE SPIRIT...

1. Promised by Jesus - **John 7:37-39**

a. To all who believe in Him

b. A special dispensation of the Spirit, unlike any before; therefore different from...

(1) The miraculous workings of the Spirit

(2) The normal influences through the Word

2. Promised by Peter - **Acts 2:38-39; 5:32**

- a. To all who repent and are baptized
- b. To those who obey God

-- **This promise of the Spirit relates to His indwelling and the accompanying blessings**

B. THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT...

1. To convict the world through the gospel

- a. To convict them of sin, righteousness and judgment - **John 16: 7-11**
- b. Done through the gospel
 - (1) The instrument designed to produce faith - **Rom 10:17; Col 1:5-6**
 - (2) God's power to save - **Rom 1:16-17; 1 Cor 1:18; 1 Thes 2:13; Heb 4:12; James 1:21**

2. To regenerate those who respond

- a. Saving them through the washing of regeneration (baptism) - **Tit 3:4-6; Acts 22:16**
- b. Causing them to be reborn, in conjunction with the Word - **1 Peter 1:22-23**

3. To sanctify those who are saved

- a. A process begun when washed and justified - **1 Cor 6:11**
- b. A process that continues with the aid of the Word - cf. **John 17:17; Acts 20:32; 1 Thes 5:23; 2 Tim 2:21**

-- **This work of the Spirit is age-lasting, accomplished with the aid of blessings involving the Spirit (see next)**

C. THE BLESSINGS OF THE SPIRIT...

1. The gift of the Spirit - **Acts 2:38-39; 5:32**

- a. Indwelling the Christian - **Rom 8:9-11; 1 Cor 6:19**
 - (1) Enabling us to overcome the flesh - **Rom 8:12-13**
 - (2) Strengthening us in the inner man - **Eph 3:16,20; Phil 2:12-13; 4:13**

(3) Interceding in our behalf - **Rom 8:26-27**

b. Serving as a seal and an earnest

(1) A seal marking us as belonging to God - **Eph 1:13; 4:30; 2 Cor 1:22**

(2) An earnest or guarantee as a promise of our inheritance - **Eph 1:14; 2 Cor 1:22**

2. The fruit of the Spirit in our lives

a. Leading those who walk in the Spirit - **Gal 5:16-18; Rom 8:5-6**

b. Producing the graces of Christ-like conduct - **Gal 5:22-26**

c. Engendering a deepening love for God as our Father- **Gal 4:6; Rom 8:15-16**

d. Filling us with hope - **Rom 15:13**

-- **These blessings the Spirit provides both internally (via His indwelling) and externally (via the Word of God)**

CONCLUSION

1. The Spirit's promise, work, and blessings at the **beginning** of the Christian age...

a. Included the necessary process of revealing and confirming God's Word

b. Was accomplished by special offices (apostles, prophets) and gifts (signs, wonders)

-- **Once the Word was fully revealed, the miraculous manifestations came to an end**

2. Yet the Spirit's promise, work, and blessings **throughout** the Christian age...

a. Includes the important process of convicting, regenerating, and sanctifying souls

b. Is accomplished by preaching the gospel, and the gift of the Spirit given to those who obey

-- **While not a miraculous manifestation, it is a Divine operation nonetheless**

3. Many challenge the notion that miraculous manifestations of the Spirit ceased when the Word was completely revealed and confirmed...

- a. But the burden of proof rests upon those who affirm that such gifts continue
- b. All they need to do is to demonstrate that they do indeed possess the gifts
- c. For such was the purpose of the gifts, to convince unbelievers! **1 Cor 14:22**

-- When many Bible-believing disciples are not convinced such claims are real, what does that say about the validity of such "signs"?

- 4. But in reacting to many false claims about the Holy Spirit, we must be careful not to...
 - a. Quench the Spirit by denying His work in our salvation
 - b. Grieve the Spirit by failing to seek His aid in living holy lives

-- If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit! - Gal 5:25

We close our study with these two benedictions by the apostle Paul:

"Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." - Rom 15:13

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit [be] with you all. Amen." - 2 Cor 13:14

MAY GOD BLESS YOU IN YOUR FUTURE STUDIES OF HIS HOLY WORD.

Archie Gene Caudill

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