

The Holy Spirit – Who is He?

Pentecost of about the arrival of the Holy Spirit, but who is He? In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit is mentioned **81** times. Yet, how familiar are we with Him?

Luke 1:35 tells us that the Holy Spirit is “**the Power of the Highest**”, and Isaiah 11:2 says He's the “**Spirit of Might**.” He is also the “**Spirit of Life**” [Romans 8:2], the “**Spirit of Wisdom, Knowledge and Understanding**” [Isaiah 11:2], the “**Spirit of Glory**”, the “**Spirit of Grace**”, the “**Spirit of Holiness**”, and the “**Spirit of Judgement**.”

But please note He is the “Person of the Holy Spirit” [Psalm 51:11; Ephesians 1:13, 4:30]. He **is** a Person! The Holy Spirit's distinct and unique personality is proven in scripture. In *1 Corinthians 12:11* we see that He has a definite **will**; and *Ephesians 4:30* tells us He can be **grieved**. He is also susceptible to personal treatment because, in *Acts 5:3* we see He can be **lied to**; in *Acts 7:51* we find that He can be **resisted**; and furthermore, in *1 Thessalonians 5:19* we are told He can be **quenched**.

The work and ministry of the Holy Spirit is accurately described in the Book of John.... He is to be our **Helper** and **Abiding Guest**; our **Teacher**; our **Testifier** and **Reprover**. He is to be our **Guide** and the **Voice of God**. He's also the **Gloryfier**, **Magnifier** and **Exhibitor** of Jesus.

In the New Testament Epistles we find the Holy Spirit described as “*Spiritual Dynamo*”, the “*Witness to Sonship*”, our “*Helper in Prayer*.”

Now, let's quickly ask ourselves something... “*If the Holy Spirit descended on the day of Pentecost to be our Counsellor, our Teacher, our Guide, and our Comforter, then surely we must be in constant communication with Him?*” But, before we can sustain any relationship with the Holy Spirit we must first **know** Him, and have confidence in our knowledge of Him [and His character].

He should not be impersonal in any way.

The Greek word translated “*know*” actually means “*to come to know*” or to “*recognise and understand completely*.” Therefore, in John 16:18 the Lord Jesus was saying that the world cannot receive anything from the Spirit of Truth because it neither sees Him nor recognises Him. However, we will come to know Him; we will come to recognise and understand Him - *completely*. What a wonderful ‘*faith filled*’ statement of fact, but it doesn't stop there.... “*For He dwells **with** you and will be **in** you.*”

“*And I will ask the Father and He will give you **another Helper** [intercessor, comforter, advocate, and counsellor], that He may abide with you forever.*” The Lord's use of “*allos*” [another], in reference to the Holy Spirit, clearly reveals the distinct similarities the Holy Spirit has with Christ's character and ministry. The word expresses similarities, but it also confirms diversities of operation.

A literal translation could read... “*I will ask My Father, and He will give you One besides Me [and in addition to Me], but One just like Me. Who will be able to do in My absence exactly what I would do if I were physically present with you.*”

Therefore, on the Day of Pentecost, the promise which Jesus had made in **John 14** was fulfilled. He sent us the blessed Holy Spirit, who is in addition to Christ, yet just like Him. Who is able to do in Christ's' absence,

exactly what Christ would do if He were physically present with us. And this way, we are never left as orphans - without help and comfort!

Romans 8:14 says “**Those who are led by the Spirit of God they are sons of God.**” And, in the Greek, to be “*led by the Holy Spirit*” implies to be “*carried away in His arms.*” The world cannot see the Holy Spirit, nor does it know Him [John 14:17]. However, we can **know** Him (by faith), and by our understanding of His ministry and the divine office He operates in here on earth.

- *He possess all ability, all knowledge and all understanding in every area of creativity, design and invention - and He imparts gifts, abilities and talents to God's people*
- *He reveals and manifests God's wisdom and understanding, and He is the inspiration and revelation of God. We see and know God [in His Son Jesus Christ] through the Holy Spirit's spiritual eyes.*
- *He is the power of God on earth and He is able to manifest Himself in physical and spiritual power and authority.*
- *He is our teacher and instructor in the things of God.*
- *He operates all spiritual gifts, and determines their measure, intensity and consistency. And they manifest entirely as He wills! He is the voice of God.*
- *He is the life giver - He imparts eternal life and quickens our mortal bodies.*
- *He leads us and guides us as if we were blind - inch by inch; step, by step; stage by stage. He carries us throughout our Christian walk!*

But remember, more than anything, the Holy Spirit is the same Spirit that manifested Himself in the ‘upper room’ on the day of Pentecost. Therefore, He alone is the Spirit of revival!

Let us pray the prayer that Habakkuk the prophet prayed for revival:

Habakkuk 3:2,

O Lord, I have heard of what You have done, and I am filled with awe.

O Lord, do again in our times the great things which You have done in the past.

And when You judge us, remember to show loving kindness and mercy.