

Wheelersburg Baptist Church 10/10/12 Wednesday evening  
"Let the Wind Blow: A Doctrinal Study of the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit"  
part 4

### Outline of Study of the Holy Spirit

- I. The Person of the Holy Spirit
  - A. Who is He?
  - B. What is He like? (His attributes)
- II. The Ministry of the Holy Spirit
  - A. The ministry of the Holy Spirit in the Church
    1. In Worship (Jn 4:23-24)
    2. In Unity (Eph 4)
    3. In mobilizing for outreach ("filling")
  - B. The ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Christian
    1. In salvation (regeneration--John 3) (baptism--I Cor 12:13)
    2. Fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-23)
    3. Filling of the Spirit (Eph 5:18)
    4. Sanctification (II Cor 3:18)
    5. Sets free from Habits (Eph 4-5)
  - C. The ministry of the Holy Spirit in the World
    1. Convicting of sin (John 16)
    2. Restraining (II Thes 1)

### **Tonight: The Ministry of the Holy Spirit**

What is the Ministry of the Holy Spirit? What does He do? Last week, we considered the first area--His ministry in the Church. Tonight, we'll explore His ministry in the life of the individual Christian.

What does the Holy Spirit do in the life of the Christian? Obviously, the Christian life would be impossible apart from the Holy Spirit, from beginning to end! In the Topical Analysis of the Bible, Walter Elwell, editor, under the section, "The Ministry of the Spirit in the Believer," there are 25 activities listed! Let's consider several key areas of His working.

1. The Spirit regenerates a lost person.  
Key Texts: Jn 3:3-5; Jn 6:63; Gal 3:3; 1 Thess 1:4; Tit 3:5
2. The Spirit assures believers.  
Key Texts: Rom 8:16
3. The Spirit baptizes believers.  
Key Texts: Jn 1:33; 1 Cor 12:13
4. The Spirit dwells in believers.  
Key Texts: Jn 14:16-17; Rom 5:5; 8:9; 1 Cor 2:12; 3:16; 6:19; Gal 4:6; 1 Jn 4:13
5. The Spirit empowers believers.  
Key Texts: Acts 1:8; Eph 3:16; Ph 1:19; 2 Tim 1:14
6. The Spirit assists believers in worship.  
Key Texts: Phil 3:3
7. The Spirit gives believers access to the Father.  
Key Texts: Eph 2:18; Rom 8:26-27
8. The Spirit glorifies Christ in believers.  
Key Texts: Jn 16:13-14; 1 Cor 12:3

9. The Spirit seals believers.  
Key Texts: 2 Cor 1:22; Eph 1:13; 4:30
10. The Spirit speaks through believers.  
Key Texts: Mk 13:11; Lk 12:12
11. The Spirit teaches believers.  
Key Texts: Jn 14:26; 1 Cor 2:13; 1 Jn 2:20
12. The Spirit transforms believers.  
Key Texts: 2 Cor 3:3; 3:18

### **1. The Spirit regenerates a lost person.**

**Key Texts: Jn 3:3-5; Jn 6:63; Gal 3:3; 1 Thess 1:5; Tit 3:5**

Q: Fill in the blank, from Eph 2:1, "And you hath He made alive who were \_\_\_\_\_ in trespasses and sins." We were DEAD.

Q: How does God make a dead person live again? Let's check some texts.

Jn 3:5 "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom."

How is a dead person made alive?

Jn 6:63 "It is the Spirit that gives life."

How does the Christian life begin?

Gal 3:3 "Having begun in the Spirit are you now made perfect by the flesh?"

How does God save a person?

Tit 3:5 "He saved us, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit."

Discuss: What difference does this truth make in our evangelistic efforts?

--If the Spirit alone gives life, I need not try to do His work for Him

(singing 14 verses of "Just As I Am"; playing on emotions of lost people)

--I can be confident that He will do His work. People will be saved.

### **2. The Spirit assures believers.**

**Key Texts: Rom 8:16**

Q: Of what does the Spirit give us assurance? That we are in God's family.

Discuss: Suppose a friend said to you, "I'm not sure I'm saved. I have doubts about my relationship with God." How would you use Rom 8:16 to help a person who is struggling with doubts?

### **3. The Spirit baptizes believers.**

**Key Texts: Jn 1:33; 1 Cor 12:13**

Don't be afraid of that word, "baptize." John the Baptist announced that Jesus would baptize with the Spirit (Jn 1:33).

Q: What did Paul say the Spirit did for us? 1 Cor 12:13 "baptized into one body"

What does that mean? Leon Morris suggests that "by one Spirit" is actually "IN one Spirit." We have been brought into the sphere of the Spirit. We have been made to "drink one Spirit" ("into" not in better MSS). When we become a Christian, the Holy Spirit enters us. Goodspeed says, "We have all been saturated with one Spirit (in Morris, 174)."

### **4. The Spirit dwells in believers.**

**Key Texts: Jn 14:16-17; Rom 5:5; 8:9; 1 Cor 2:12; 3:16; 6:19; Gal 4:6; 1 Jn**

**4:13**

Discuss: What is one practical effect this truth should have on our lives?

It's an incentive for holy living.

**5. The Spirit empowers believers.**

**Key Texts: Acts 1:8; Eph 3:16; Ph 1:19; 2 Tim 1:14**

Discuss: Suppose a friend said, "How do I get this power of the Spirit?" How would you answer?

--Make sure you HAVE the Spirit.

--God has prescribed MEANS by which we tap into this power (Word, prayer, conscious decision to "walk in the Spirit").

**6. The Spirit assists believers in worship.**

**Key Texts: Phil 3:3**

**7. The Spirit gives believers access to the Father.**

**Key Texts: Eph 2:18; Rom 8:26-27**

Q: What should we do when we are so burdened that we don't know what to pray? Pray anyway. Why? Because the Spirit helps. He makes intercession.

**8. The Spirit glorifies Christ in believers.**

**Key Texts: Jn 16:13-14; 1 Cor 12:3**

Discussion: There are lots of denominations and lots of different "brands" of Christians. How can you tell the real thing, according to 1 Cor 12:3?

"No man can say that Jesus is Lord, but by the Holy Spirit."

Q: What are the implications of saying "Jesus is Lord"? No mere words!

**9. The Spirit seals believers.**

**Key Texts: 2 Cor 1:22; Eph 1:13; 4:30**

**10. The Spirit speaks through believers.**

**Key Texts: Mk 13:11; Lk 12:12**

Discuss: How does the Spirit help us when we're in tough situations, even intimidated, and not sure what words to say?

**11. The Spirit teaches believers.**

**Key Texts: Jn 14:26; 1 Cor 2:13; 1 Jn 2:20, 27**

Discuss: Tomorrow is Thursday morning. Suppose you say, "I really want the Spirit to teach me." How does the Spirit teach us? Check out: 1 Jn 2:20, 27

**12. The Spirit transforms believers.**

**Key Texts: 2 Cor 3:3; 3:18**

Q: According to 3:18, what is the Spirit's goal for you? To change us. Into what? Into the image of Christ. We were created in God's image, but sin distorted that. God is reclaiming us for His glory.

**Next Week: The Fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-23)**

**Two Weeks: The Holy Spirit sets us free from Habits (Eph 4-5).**