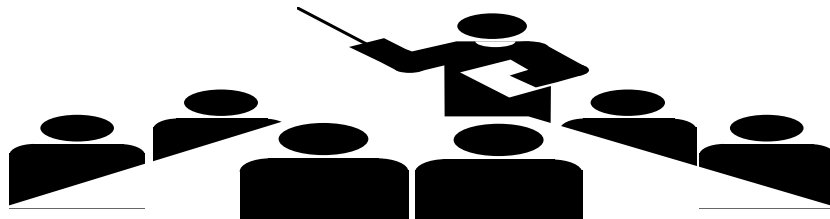


BIBLE STUDY SERIES



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The Holy Spirit and the Christian

BIBLE STUDY

Rev. Dr. Darryl B. Starnes, Sr., Instructor

THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE CHRISTIAN

PROPOSITION: In order to appreciate the person and ministry of the Holy Spirit, we must address some very pertinent questions.

I. Who Is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity.

- A. He possesses a personality composed of the following:
 - 1. Intellect (1 Corinthians 2: 11)
 - 2. Will (1 Corinthians 12: 11)
 - 3. Emotions (Ephesians 4: 30)
- B. He is called by Jesus “The Comforter” or “The Helper” (John 14: 26; 15: 26)
 - 1. The Greek word is *Paraclete* [It means “one called along beside.”]
 - 2. He is Christian’s companion and friend: One who energizes, strengthens, and empowers.
- C. He is also called by other names:
 - 1. The Spirit of God (1 Corinthians 3: 16)
 - 2. The Spirit of Christ (Romans 8: 9)
 - 3. The Spirit of Life (Romans 8: 2)
 - 4. The Spirit of Truth (John 16: 13)
 - 5. The Spirit of Grace (Heb. 10: 29)
 - 6. The Spirit of Promise (Eph 1: 13)

II. Why Did He Come?

The Holy Spirit came for the following reasons:

- A. To be the Christian’s Helper (John 14: 16)
- B. To be the Christian’s Teacher (John 14: 26)
- C. To testify of Christ (John 15: 26)
- D. To reprove the world [convict] (John 16: 7, 8)
- E. To be the Christian’s Guide (John 16: 13)
- F. To glorify Christ (John 16: 14)
- G. To be revealer of truth (John 16: 15)
- H. To empower Christians to witness (Acts 1: 8)
- I. To be the inward witness to sonship (Romans 8: 16)
- J. To aid the Christian in prayer (Romans 8: 26)

III. How Is the Holy Spirit Related to Every Christian?

The Holy Spirit does a number of things for those who made Jesus Christ their Lord and Savior.

- A. He regenerates those who trust Christ for salvation (John 3: 5, Titus 3: 5)
- B. He indwells the Christians (1 Corinthians 3: 16; Romans 8:9)
- C. He seals every Christian (Ephesians 1: 13; 4: 30)
- D. He is the guarantee of the inheritance that Christians will one day receive (2 Corinthians 5: 5)
- E. He baptizes each Christian into the Body of Christ. (1 Cor. 12: 13; Galatians 3: 27; Romans 6: 3, 4)
- F. He will fill every yielded Christian for service
 - 1. The Christian is commanded to be filled with the Spirit. (Ephesians 5: 18)
 - 2. We are to be filled with the Spirit to receive power for effective witness. (Acts 1: 8; 4: 49, 31)

IV. How can a Christian be filled with the Holy Spirit and know when he or she is filled?

A. We must know the following:

1. The Holy Spirit already indwells every Christian; it is no longer necessary to wait in Jerusalem as Jesus instructed His disciples, except to make preparations for His empowering. (Romans 8:9)
2. We are commanded to be filled with the Spirit. (Ephesians 5: 18)
3. Our motives are pure and our consciences are clear. (Psalms 66: 18)
4. We are promised power for service when we are filled with the Spirit. (Acts 1: 8)
5. If we hunger and thirst for righteousness we shall be filled. (Matthew 5: 6)
6. God will fill those who ask Him. (Luke 11: 13)

B. We must yield ourselves completely (Romans 12: 1-2)

The Holy Spirit will fill us the moment that we are fully yielded.

C. We must appropriate the filling of the Holy Spirit by faith. (1 John 5: 14, 15; Hebrews 11: 6)

D. Praise God and thank Him continually. (Ephesians 5:18-20)

E. Recognize the two ways of knowing when we are filled with the Holy Spirit:

1. *By the promises of God's word*

If we have met the conditions in God's word and have asked Him to fill us, we can depend upon God's word. (1 John 5: 14, 15)

2. *By personal experience*

- a. Power for service and witness [boldness] (Acts 1: 8; 4: 29, 31)
Outward emotions are not the evidence: feelings may or may not manifest themselves at the time of our filling.
- b. Greater love for Christ and others.
- c. Concern for the lost.
- d. The fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5: 22, 23)

V. How can a Christian continue to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

The command in Ephesians 5:18 is to keep on being filled [constantly and continually]

The more yielded we are the more liberty the Holy Spirit has in working through our lives in bringing others to Christ and bringing them to maturity in Christ.

- A. Yield to God daily and abide in Him by obeying His commands (John 14: 21; John 15: 1-17)
- B. Spend time each day in prayer for guidance in our lives and the salvation for the lost.
Make a list of those you want to find Christ and pray for them daily. (Eph. 6: 18; Sam. 12: 23)
- C. Spend time daily studying God's word and memorize portions of Scripture.
(Hebrews 4:12; 1 Corinthians 2: 9-12; Psalm 119: 4, 9, 15, 16, 97, 103, 105, 130)
- D. Do not grieve the Holy Spirit; confess and forsake sinful practices; God will forgive and cleanse. (Ephesians 4: 30-32; 1 John 1: 9)
- E. Do not quench the Holy Spirit; be sensitive to His leading. (1 Thessalonians 5: 19)
- F. Put to death the deeds of the flesh; the Spirit-filled life is a life of obedience and abiding.
(Romans 8: 13)

VI. Why are so few Christians filled with the Holy Spirit?

- A. The basic problem concerns man's will.
 - 1. God never forces us to do that which we are unwilling to do. *We are free moral agents.*
 - 2. Just as He never forces a sinner to be saved, He never forces a Christian to be filled with the Holy Spirit. (Revelations 22: 17) "*Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.*"
- B. Many wrongfully believe they can serve God and live for Him in their own power. (Jn. 15:5)
- C. There are six other reasons:
 - 1. Lack of knowledge of the word (Psalms 119, 105)
 - 2. Pride (Proverbs 16: 18; Isaiah 14: 12-14; I Peter 5: 5)
 - 3. Fear (Proverbs 29: 25; Luke 9: 26)
 - 4. Secret sin [unconfessed] (Pr. 28: 13; Ps. 66: 18; Ps. 44: 21; Mt. 5: 23, 24; 1 Jn. 1: 9; Mark 11: 24-26)
 - 5. Worldly mindedness (1 Jn. 2: 15-17; Mt. 13: 22; Tit. 2: 12; Mt. 6: 24, 33)
 - 6. Lack of trust in God – to surrender (Heb. 11: 6; James 1: 6, 7; Luke 11: 13)