

The Holy Spirit

I. Introduction: The Bible says Christians were given the Holy Spirit (**I Thessalonians 4:7-8** and **I John 4:13**). So, let's study about the Holy Spirit.

A. The Holy Spirit is God (**Acts 5:1-4**).

1. He is the third of three persons of God (**Matthew 28:19** and **I John 5:7**; cf. **I Corinthians 11:3**; **Hebrews 1:1-2**, and **John 16:12-14**).

2. There is but one Spirit just as there is one Father, etc. (**Ephesians 4:4-6**).

3. He is not an "it" or just part of the Father or Son; He is His own personage that is able to reason (**John 15:26**; **16:7** and **Acts 15:28**).

B. The Spirit is the revealer (**John 14:26**).

1. He revealed to those of old (**II Peter 1:20-21**)

2. Likewise, He revealed during the N.T. time also (**I Corinthians 2:9-16** and **Ephesians 3:1-5**).

3. This means those claiming the Spirit reveals something to them are claiming inspiration (**II Samuel 23:2**, **Jeremiah 1:9**, and **Acts 1:16**).

II. Body: We can understand revelation on this (**Ephesians 5:17** and **Colossians 1:9-10**).

A. We must use our ability to reason on this subject (**Proverbs 2:6-7** and **Acts 18:4**).

1. The gift of the Spirit (**Acts 2:38**; **5:32**) came through baptism of the Spirit (**Acts 1:5-8**; **2:1-4**; **10:44-46**; **11:11-18**) and the laying on of one of the Apostles hands (**Acts 8:12-20**; **19:1-7**, and **Romans 1:11**).

a. There is now one baptism (**Ephesians 4:5**; cf. **Acts 10:46-48** and **I Peter 3:20-21**).

b. There are no more Apostles to lay hands on men (**Acts 1:21-26** and **I Corinthians 15:1-8**).

c. Thus, there is no way for the gift of the Spirit to be given today!

2. The gift of the Spirit was to produce miracles (**Acts 2:1-4**; **16-18**; **10:46**; **19:6**; cf. **Mark 16:15-20** and **Hebrews 2:3-4**).

a. The Spirit was given by the Apostles, but the gifts by the Spirit Himself (**I Corinthians 12:1-11**).

b. Miracles were temporary (**I Corinthians 13:8-13**).

c. Thus, we see why the laying on of the Apostles hands and Holy Spirit baptism was temporary! The need has been fulfilled!

3. If the Spirit operated directly to convert the sinner, the Scriptures are a lie (**Acts 2:40-41**; **8:12**; **25-29**, **I Thessalonians 2:13**, **Titus 1:2-3**, and **James 1:17-18**).

B. Notice that you cannot separate the Spirit and the word (**Ephesians 6:17**). - {See cross references to prove this point}

1. We are born of the Spirit (**John 3:5**; cf. **I Corinthians 4:15** and **I Peter 1:23-25**).

2. The Spirit makes alive (**John 6:63**).

3. The Spirit saves (**Titus 3:5**; cf. **Luke 8:11-15**).

4. The Spirit reproves (**John 16:8**; cf. **II Timothy 3:16**).

5. The Spirit testifies (**I Peter 1:10-11**; cf. **John 5:39**).

6. The Spirit sanctifies (**II Thessalonians 2:13**; cf. **John 17:17**).

7. The Spirit washes (**I Corinthians 6:11**; cf. **Ephesians 5:26**).

8. The Spirit strengthens (**Ephesians 3:16**; cf. **Deuteronomy 11:8**).

9. The Spirit comforts (**Acts 9:31**; cf. **Romans 15:4**).

10. The Spirit calls (**Revelation 22:17**; cf. **II Thessalonians 2:14**).

11. The Spirit indwells (**I Corinthians 3:16**; cf. **Colossians 3:16** and **II John v.1-2**).

C. Yes, the Holy Spirit indwells the Christian (**Ephesians 5:18**, **II Timothy 1:14**, and **I John 4:12-13**) but is that a literal embodiment?

1. Consider, if that is to be taken literally, the Father and Son literally indwell us too (**John 14:23**, **John 17:20-21**, **Romans 8:9-10**, **II Corinthians 5:17**; **6:16**, **Galatians 2:20**, and **Colossians 1:25-27**).

2. If the indwelling doctrine is true, then we too literally indwell God (**John 14:20; 15:4** and **I John 4:15-16**).
3. We understand what **I John 3:17** means, similar wording above.
4. God dwelled in the temple (**Matthew 23:21**), but such was not literal (**Acts 17:24**; cf. **I Corinthians 6:19-20**).
5. Man wants to have God dwelling in man beyond all reasoning (**I Kings 8:27**).
6. Where deity is [the Spirit is God] that place is Holy (**Exodus 3:2-6**).
 - a. If God were literally in man, why didn't Peter understand a man falling at His feet to worship (**Acts 10:25-26**)?
 - b. What would the literal indwelling mean for our knowledge (**I Corinthians 2:11**)?
7. If the indwelling of the H.S. is so, why not a literal indwelling of Satan too (**Acts 5:3** and **Romans 7:17**)?
8. It is through faith that deity indwells a Christian (**Ephesians 3:16-19**).

III. Conclusion:

- A. You cannot separate the Holy Spirit's relationship with us from the Father and Son (**II Corinthians 13:14**).
- B. This lesson is but the hem of the garment, take up your Bible and fully clothe your mind on the truth about the Holy Spirit (**II Peter 3:15-18**).