



Chapter Twelve: The Holy Spirit

The Spirit is God's Powerful Control over All Things.

- The Spirit empowers angels (Ezk 1:12,20) & humans (Jdg 13:25; 14:6,19; 15:14).
- The Spirit empowered Jesus's ministry (Mt 3:16; see Isa 11:2-3; 42:1; 61:1; Lk 4:1,14,18; Jn 1:32; 3:34),...
- raised him from the dead (Rom 1:4), ...
- & empowers the proclamation of the good news (1Co 2:4; see Lk 4:14; Ac 2:1-4; Rom 15:19), enabling us to understand God's Word (1Th 1:5).

The Spirit is God's Authoritative Word

- The Spirit enables "Thus says the Lord" kind of speech — when one speaks by the Spirit, one speaks from God (Mt 10:20, etc.)
- The Spirit gives wisdom and understanding (Ex 28:3; 31:3; Dt 34:9; Jas 3:13-18). The Spirit authors the Word (2Tm 3:16; 2Pt 1:20-21).

The Spirit is God's Abiding & Mediating Presence

- Ps 139:7 — "Where shall I go from Your presence?"
- The Spirit makes Christ's external, historical work on the cross internally and personally present to us (Rom 8:4).
- The Spirit dwells in Christians as his temple (1Co 3:16; 6:19; Gal 4:6; 5:16-26; Eph 2:11-21, esp. vv. 18,21).

Who Is the Spirit?

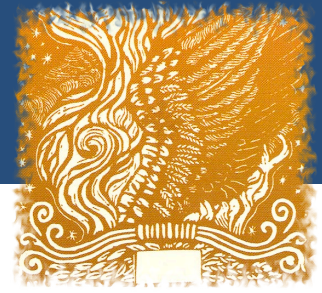
The Spirit is God — Mt 28:18-20; 2Co 13:14; the speaker of Jer 31:33-34, according to Heb 10:15-17 is the HS; Ac 5:3-4 .

The Spirit is a Person — The Spirit is wisdom (Isa 11:2; Ac 6:10; 1Co 2:4), has a mind (Rom 8:27) and speaks Ac 10:19-20), has emotions (Isa 63:10; Eph 4:30)

The Spirit in Our Lives

What Jesus did out there & back then, the HS works in here & right now! — Rom 8:1-4; Eph 1:16-23

As with Jesus, so with us — "...Well, if Jesus needed the Spirit's ministry to him, we certainly need the Spirit as well. He is the one who equips us to serve God, to preach, to pray effectively. He regenerates us, gives us the new birth. He sanctifies us, makes us holy in thought and deed, putting to death the sins of the body. He is grieved when we sin." (Check the refs. on pp. 162-163!).



Baptism in the Spirit

The believer's initial regeneration

- 1Co 12:13 — “For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and we were made to drink of one Spirit” (see also Mt 3:11; Jn 1:33; Ac 1:5; 11:16; Titus 3:4-7)
- Frame would take the Acts narratives, where sometimes baptism in (or reception of) the Spirit follows conversion (e.g., 8:12-17) as being part of the “is” of God’s initial establishment of the church, not part of the “ought” of the ongoing life of the church.

Filling of the Spirit

- Eph 5:18 — “And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled (in the Gk, it’s more like ‘keep on being filled’) with the Spirit.”
- There is *one* baptism in the Spirit, but there are (hopefully) *many* fillings of the Spirit.

Fruit of the Spirit

- Gal 5:22-23 — “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.”
- “The picture of a ‘filling’ of the Spirit is the picture of a discrete event, repeated on a number of occasions. the picture of the ‘fruit’ of the Spirit is the picture of a slow process that is always going on.”

Gifts of the Spirit

We all got ’em — see 1Pt 4:10-11; and the longer parallels in 1Co 12; Rom 12

Miracles (& Healings)

- **Miracles’ epochal significance** — Moses, Elijah, Elisha, Jesus, & the apostles
- **“Signs of an apostle”** — 2Co 12:12
- **A difference between not expecting miracles & healings, and saying they can’t happen.**
- **James 5:16; Heb 4:16**

Prophecy

Question: Does anybody speak authoritatively for God in this era besides God himself in the Bible?

Tongues

Dual symbolic value in NT:

1) The Babel curse is broken, and now in Christ a new humanity is being recreated that brings the nations together (Note: this doesn’t mean God instituted “missionary tongues” — see Ac 14:11).

2) Tongues provoke even deeper unbelief in unbelievers (see 1Co 14:20-25, against the backdrop of Isa 28:11-12; 45:14; Zch 8:23).

Dual pastoral value in NT:

1) When interpreted, tongues are edifying, even equivalent to prophecy — see 1Cor 14:1-5.

2) *Perhaps* a gift for personal edification (unless “a gift for personal edification” is an oxymoron — see 1Cor 14:4a; and compare with vv. 3,5b).