

## The Personality of the Holy Spirit

### I. What's Your Personality?

***The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity with a personality par excellence.***

### II. The Promise of a Person

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. – John 14:16-17

#### 1. The Holy Spirit is *intelligent*.

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. *And the Spirit said to Philip*, "Go over and join this chariot." So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter  
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he opens not his mouth.  
In his humiliation justice was denied him.  
Who can describe his generation?  
For his life is taken away from the earth."

And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they came up out of the water, *the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away*, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. – Acts 8:26-39

“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.” – John 14:26

“For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements...” – Acts 15:28

## 2. The Holy Spirit has a *will*.

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the heart of man imagined,  
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

...these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.” – 1 Corinthians 2:9-11

All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually *as he wills*. – 1 Corinthians 12:11

## 3. The Holy Spirit has *feelings*.

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. – Ephesians 4:29-30

“They rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit.” – Isaiah 63:10

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. Then he said to them, “Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.” – Nehemiah 8:9-10

And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit. – Acts 13:52

And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit... - 1 Thessalonians 1:6

“Joy is the settled assurance that God is in control of all the details of my life, the quiet confidence that ultimately everything is going to be alright, and the determined choice to praise God in every situation.”<sup>1</sup>

### III. We Need the Holy Spirit!

“The Spirit, to be sure, always points beyond Himself to Christ. Yet it is through a close, inner relationship with the Holy Spirit that this takes place. The Spirit has become, in truth, Counselor, Comforter, Helper, Advocate. What a joy to know him personally!”<sup>2</sup>

“The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the *fellowship of the Holy Spirit* be with you **all**.” – 2 Corinthians 13:14

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<sup>1</sup> Rick Warren

<sup>2</sup> J Rodman Williams