

The Believer's Greatest Gift!
Part 2
Sunday Evening, June 27, 2021

I. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD THE FATHER'S GIFT TO EVERY BELIEVER

Name some gifts you have given over the years to your most cherished love ones...

God gives us: His Word, grace, mercy, forgiveness, salvation, joy, peace, justification, sanctification...

But: NO GIFT HE HAS GIVEN US IS greater than the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Knowing **Christ as Savior** makes me **saved**

Knowing **HS** makes me a **Spiritual Believer!**

Allows me to live **holy**, dedicated life as true disciple

a. The Holy Spirit is an Eternal Person

As much as the Father or the Son.

As Jesus put Himself under the Father to carry out the will of the Father

The Holy Spirit submits to the will of the Godhead three.

As an all-wise, all-powerful, ever-present, Person

In order to be considered a person, a being must possess three characteristics:

Intelligence, Emotion, Will

The Holy Spirit displays all three.

The Holy Spirit has **Intelligence!**

1 Cor 2:10–11 - these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For 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.

The Holy Spirit "*comprehends the thoughts of God*"

Rom 8:27 - And He who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Only a person with intelligence can actually know things.

A fire, a plant, a tree....

The Holy Spirit has **a Will!**

1 Cor 12:11 - All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, Who apportions to each one individually as He wills.

HS decides what spiritual gifts each believer receives.

HS picked out first missionaries: **Acts 13**

HS settles doctrinal issues: **Acts 15:28 – It seemed good to the Holy Spirit**

Only persons with a will are able to communicate this way.

The Holy Spirit has **Emotion!**

grieved, quenched, lied to, resisted, enraged (insulted)

Eph 4:30 - *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, ...*

Isa 63:10 – *But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit*

1 Thess 5:19 – *do not quench the Holy Spirit*

Acts 5:3–4 - *But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land?*

⁴While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to man but to God.” HS is co-equal God

Acts 7:51 - *“You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you.*

Heb 10:29 – *How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? (the HS can be *outraged* - insulted)*

Eph 1:13-14 - *In Him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, Who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of His glory.*

Acts 1:8 - *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*

Matt 12:32 – HS can be *blasphemed*

II. THE HOLY SPIRIT’S ACTIVITIES IN MY LIFE

a. He is The Spirit of Truth

Jesus said I am to know the Holy Spirit

Do I know Him? Do I know His many ministries revealed by His names?

John 14:17 - *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 15:26 - *“But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness about Me.*

- He Leads Me Into All Truth

His ministry includes making me aware of what is false, deceitful, hypocritical
Things that grieve Him.

John 16:13 - *When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth, for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak, and He will declare to you the things that are to come.*

Eph 4:30 - *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*

- **He Wrote The Truth**

The **Holy Spirit** moved upon men to give us the *Word of God*

2 Pet 1:21 - *For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.*

John writes about the importance of **Walking in Truth**.

2 John 1-4 - *The elder to the elect lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all who know the truth, ²because of the truth that abides in us and will be with us forever: ³Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love.*

⁴I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as we were commanded by the Father.

We are to **Walk in Truth**... live a life of truth!

3 John 1-4 - *The elder to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth. ²Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul. ³For I rejoiced greatly when the brothers came and testified to your truth, as indeed you are walking in the truth.*

⁴I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.

b. He is The **Spirit of Life**

- **He brings Spiritual Life and Spiritual Desires**

Rom 7-8 and **Gal 5-6** do great jobs differentiating between the Fleshly and Spiritual Believer

Rom 8:2 - *the Spirit of Life* **takes away** lukewarmness, dullness, deadness
awakens us to Spiritual Things
His work causes us to **put away apathy**

Rom 8:2-3 - *For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.*

Rom 12:11 - *Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.*

As we allow Him to control our lives:

He makes us fervent in **prayer** life
fervent in **love** for the Lord
fervent in **serving** the Lord
fervent in our **interest** in *His Word*

^{8:2}*For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.*

³*For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh,*

⁴*in order that the **righteous requirement** of the law **might be fulfilled in us, who walk** not according to the flesh but **according to the Spirit**.*

⁵*For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.*

⁶*For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.*

⁷*For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.*

c. He is The **Spirit of Grace**

Heb 10:29 – *How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged **the Spirit of grace**?*

- The Holy Spirit will lead us to be gracious, merciful, loving to Others (Fruit of the Spirit)
NOT: judgmental, unmerciful, hating Others

d. He is The **Spirit of Holiness**

- Don't forget He is the ***HOLY SPIRIT*** = He is holy

27x in **Acts** alone He's referred to as ***the HOLY SPIRIT***

Always working in our lives to help us become more and more holy

Rom 1:4 - *and was declared to be the Son of God **in power** according to the **Spirit of holiness** by His resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,*

- His ministry makes us **aware of sin**, defilement, anything unclean, or impure.
He **convicts** of that which degrades, grieves and quenches His work in us.

1 Thess 5:19 – *do not quench the Holy Spirit*

Eph 4:30 - *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were **sealed for the day of redemption**. We can only grieve someone who loves us!*

- His work creates in me a love for what is pure and holy.
It grieves Him if we allow impurity in thoughts, pictures, images, memes, books, etc.

2 Cor 7:1 - *Since we have these promises, beloved, **let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion** in the fear of God.*

these promises: God's assurances of **His Presence** and **His Fellowship**
to those who obey Him. (2 Cor 6:16–18)

body and spirit: the whole person - external and internal aspects

A healthy ***fear for God*** produces obedience!

A healthy ***fear for God*** helps me pursue progressive sanctification (**holiness**)

My progressive sanctification will never reach sinless perfection

But My progressive sanctification can be ***completed*** or matured.

complete: a maturing, growing holiness, an increased Christlikeness

Progressive sanctification (not sinless perfection).

2 Cor 3:18 - *And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, **are being transformed** into the same image **from one degree of glory to another**. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.*

1 Pet 2:11 - *Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.*

1 John 3:3 - *And everyone who thus hopes in Him purifies himself as He is pure.*

e. He is The **Comforter**

John 14:16–18 - *And I will ask the Father, and He will give you **another Helper**, to be with you forever,¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. You ⁸know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.¹⁸ **I will not leave you as orphans**; I will come to you.*

*allos – refers to an additional person or thing of the same type as the one already mentioned
paraclete: advocate, one called alongside to help, intercessor*

He is here for us—and He wants to do a wonderful work in our lives

He guides, empowers, fills us, advocates, intercedes, time and time again.

The One alongside to help us

¹⁸ **I will not leave you as orphans!**

John 15:26 - *“But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, **He will bear witness about Me**.*

• **He Indwells Us Both Individually and Corporately**

1 Cor 6:19–20 - *Or do you not know that your (pl) body (sing) is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you (pl), whom you (pl) have from God? You (pl) are not your (pl) own,²⁰ for you (pl) were bought with a price. So glorify God in your (pl) body.*

He gives us hope, teaches us, edifies us, communicates joy and helps us **grow up**

- As Comforter He gives us grace, strength, and wisdom to face temptations, trials and tests of life. We do not **have to** fall into *sin* and *failure*.

As Comforter He **heals our hurts**

As Comforter He **mends our brokenness**.

As Comforter He **lifts us up** when we are down

As Comforter He **makes us glad** when we are sad

As Comforter He gives us **the glory of His presence**, and grace, victory, and blessing

III. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE GIFT OF FULLNESS TO THE BELIEVER

Eph 1:23 - *which is His body, **the fullness of Him who fills all** in all.*

Eph 3:19 - *and to know (experientially) the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

The more a Christian knows about Christ, the more amazed he is at Christ's love for him.

Eph 5:18 - *And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,*

Col 2:6-7 - *Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, ⁷rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.*

In the divine plan, the gift of the Holy Spirit has as much purpose as the gift of the Son for salvation. Some of these reasons we have studied in the previous section.

Through the Son the sinner has life and salvation; through the Holy Spirit the saved have abundant life, or fullness of spiritual life.

Through the Son the sinner left the sphere of the nature to enter into the plane of the spiritual; by the Holy Spirit that saved one is led into God's fullness in the plane of the spiritual.

a. The Holy Spirit lives in us for the purpose of leading us into the fullness of God for our lives.

He reveals to us the Word of God that we might have the fullness that is to be ours in Christ. He creates in us the desire for that fullness.

And then He acts as the channel for the transmission of fullness from God to us.

Eph 5:18 – *And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,*

Rom 7 - uses "I" 28x... **HS** mentioned once.

But when we enter into the fullness of the Holy Spirit

Rom 8 – mentions **HS** 19x... and the only time I is used:

Rom 8:18 - *For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.*

Rom 8:38-39 - *For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

• **This Fullness is our Birthright in Christ.**

By virtue of being saved it is the right of every believer to have all the fullness of God. It is the ministry of the indwelling Holy Spirit to make this real to us.

John 7:37 – *On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink."*

We must have a thirst for His fullness.

Our part is to believe

John 7:38-39 - *Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.' "* ³⁹*Now this He said about the Spirit, whom those who believed*

***in Him** were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.*

Possibly our greatest need is to be *filled with the Holy Spirit!*

All that we are, all that we do, all that we will be, hinges directly upon this.

Our powerlessness, fruitlessness, and joylessness all depends on our relationship with the Holy Spirit.

If we are to be used of God we must be filled with the Holy Spirit.

If we are to have victory over sin, then we need His power, control, and ministry in our lives. In prayer, ask the Holy Spirit to take charge of your life.

Surrender your body to him as the One who dwells within and wants to control,

So, Christ is real and God's fullness is known.

1 Cor 6:19-20 - *Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.*