

## The Holy Spirit Part 3

- I. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A PERSON
- II. THE HOLY SPIRIT CONVICTS US (as He first leads us to Christ in order to obtain salvation and secondly in Christ in order to sanctify and keep us, *PARA*)
- III. THE HOLY SPIRIT SEALS US (He is the down payment to ensure that we will get to where God promised we would get, *EN*)
- IV. THE HOLY SPIRIT EMPOWERS US (after leading us to Christ and sealing us in Christ we need to be empowered by the Holy Spirit for service to Christ, *EPI*)
- V. GIVEN GIFTS FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT
- VI. SPIRITUAL GIFTS
- VII. LETTING GOD IMPART UNTO US THE GIFTS THAT HE DESIRES US TO HAVE (for the edifying of the whole body and for the glory of God)

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- I. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A PERSON
  - A. We saw clearly in our first of three sessions thus far that the Holy Spirit is a person. He is not an energy an essence or an impersonal force.
  - B. The Holy Spirit possesses certain characteristics that only *beings* can possess. Such as...
    1. **Intelligence**
    2. **Will**
    3. **Emotion**
  - C. The Scripture uses **personal pronouns** to speak of the Holy Spirit all the time  
...and...
  - D. In Scripture we see the Holy Spirit **treated as a person** in various narratives and by the epistle writers  
...and lastly...
  - E. The Holy Spirit **acts like a person**
  - F. After all of the evidence is in one can only conclude (when looking at that evidence unbiasedly) that the Bible unmistakably teaches us that the holy Spirit is indeed the third PERSON of the Holy Trinity
  - G. After pointing out that Holy Spirit is a person we then went into the three different relationships that one can experience with the Holy Spirit.

## II. THE HOLY SPIRIT CONVICTS US

- A. The Holy Spirit has been sent into the world to convict the world of certain things.
  - 1. In **John 16:8** we read “And when he [the Holy Spirit] is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.”
- B. The Spirit of God is alongside of every one in the entire world seeking to lead them to the Messiah. He does this by convicting the world of sin, righteousness and judgement.
- C. The scripture also describes this convicting work of the Holy Spirit as striving with man.
  - 1. In **Genesis 6:3** it says “And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also [is] flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.”
    - a) The word strive means to contend or plead with...
    - b) The Holy Spirit, I believe is pleading with all mankind so as to ultimately lead them to salvation which is found only in Jesus Christ .
- D. This we pointed out was the *PARA* experience with the Holy Spirit. This all people, saved or unsaved, experience.

## III. THE HOLY SPIRIT SEALS US

- A. The Holy Spirit doesn't only convict us and lead us to Christ as He comes along side of us but when someone does get saved the Holy Spirit indwells that person.
  - 1. Jesus said, “the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be *in* you.”
- B. When someone repents and places their faith in the Savior that person has been born again of the Spirit of God. At this moment the Holy Spirit begins to dwell within the person who has just received salvation. And at the moment of conversion the person is sealed in Christ by the Holy Spirit.
  - 1. **Ephesians 1:12-14** says, “That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were *sealed* with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the *earnest* of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.”
  - 2. and again in **Ephesians 4:30** it says, “And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.”
- C. The seal that is being spoken of here speaks of three things: in scripture a seal signifies
  - 1. A finished transaction
  - 2. Ownership
  - 3. Security
- D. “The Holy Spirit has been placed in the believer permanently, indicating that the great transaction in which God the Son paid for sin, thus satisfying the just demand of God's holy

law, is finished; that we saints belong to him as His heritage, and that we are eternally secure<sup>1</sup>

- E. In the passage above we are also told that the Holy Spirit is the earnest of our inheritance.
1. Earnest money is a down payment which guarantees the completion of the full payment at a latter point in time. For the believer we have yet to receive something that is ours in Christ and the Holy Spirit is the earnest which tells me that I will receive it. Salvation is really in three parts:
    - a) Justification
    - b) Sanctification and
    - c) Glorification
  2. Every believer has the first two. We have been justified and we are being sanctified but we have yet to be glorified. We have yet to receive our glorified bodies and enter the glorified state. But the earnest tells us that we will receive that which is already ours in Christ.
- F. This seal and earnest speak of the *EN* relationship that every believer has with the Holy Spirit.

#### IV. THE HOLY SPIRIT EMPOWERS US

- A. The theme or topic of last sundays message was the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. The *EPI*, is the last and finale relationship that a person can experience with the Holy Spirit and it involves being empowered for service unto the Lord.
- B. This experience, we pointed out, is separate and distinct from salvation.
- C. The coming upon of the Holy Spirit to overflowing so that the believer is made fit for service.
1. Jesus told his disciples in **Luke 24:49**, “And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.”
  2. and in **Acts 1:8** he said, “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

#### V. GIVEN GIFTS FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT

- A. There is a place in the Body for everyone. After receiving the baptism with the Holy Spirit that experience will manifest itself in different ways. One way is through the gifts of the Holy Spirit. However I don't think that you can say if you haven't received the baptism with the Holy Spirit you don't posses any gifts of the Holy Spirit. But when one has a spiritual gift there will be a whole new dimension and level of effectiveness after that the Holy Spirit comes upon that person.
- B. In 1 Corinthians 12 Paul the apostle gives a list of spiritual gifts. Though this list is not a complete list of spiritual gifts it does cover many of them.
- C. Paul starts the chapter by saying “Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.”

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<sup>1</sup> Kenneth Wuest, Word Studies in the Greek New Testament Vol. 1

1. If the Bible says that we should not be ignorant of these gifts then we should not be ignorant of them. In fact Paul says in the same chapter that we are to “covet earnestly the best gifts”.
  2. There are actually three things that Paul does not want us to ignorant of throughout the New Testament.
    - a) The first is Israel
    - b) The Second The gifts of the Spirit and
    - c) The Third is concerning eschatological things
- D. It is interesting that the church across the world is largely ignorant on these three subjects even though the Bible tells us not to be.
- E. When it comes to the gifts of the Spirit some close their eyes to the fact that the gifts of the Holy Spirit are for us today and not just for the early church and the apostolic age. Others abuse and misuse the gifts giving the world an impression that christians are mentally unstable or completely emotional but lack real substance. The former tends to push *believers* away from that which the Lord would desire to give and the latter tends to push *unbelievers* away from coming to Christ because of the disorder and confusion that the misuse of the gifts bring.
- F. What we need to do is to open our Bibles! (so much in life is cleared up when we simply open our Bibles and study them, 2 Timothy 2:15) We need to study this chapter in 1 Corinthians and 13 and 14 with it to understand that there are spiritual gifts available for the church today and how the church is to use these gifts. Then we won't be ignorant so as to the exclude or misuse the spiritual gifts.
- G. In 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 there is first a list a nine gifts. later on in the chapter (verse 28) Paul adds a few more on to the list. Some others can also be seen in Romans 12. The first nine are:
1. word of wisdom
  2. word of knowledge
  3. faith
  4. gift of healing
  5. working of miracles
  6. prophecy
  7. discerning of spirits
  8. tongues
  9. interpretation of tongues
- H. The passage:  
“Now there are *diversities of gifts*, but the same Spirit. And there are *differences of administrations*, but the same Lord. And there are *diversities of operations*, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge

by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another [divers] kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.”

## 1. The centrality of Jesus Christ

a) When coming to the Spiritual gifts we need to understand that the primary reason for the use and operation of the various gifts that be, is to point people to Jesus. “The true gifts of the Holy Spirit, when manifested in a scriptural and correct way, will always focus peoples hearts on Jesus Christ. Jesus said the Spirit would not testify of Himself but of Christ.<sup>2</sup>”

(1) John 15:26 “But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, [even] the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me.”

(2) We need to be careful to keep the emphasis where it needs to be, on Jesus!

## 2. Diversities of Gifts (1 Cor 12:4)

a) Notice the repeating of the phrase “the same spirit”. Many gifts but only one Spirit. Therefore even though there are many different gifts there will be unity in and throughout all the use of these gifts.

(1) Particularly notice verse 11 Which says:

“But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.”

(2) “These gifts complement each other; they do not compete with each another<sup>3</sup>.”

## 3. Differences of administrations or ministries (1 Cor 12:5)

a) Apostleship, prophet, pastor teacher, exhortation, government or helps. These are all different gifts of administration or ministry, but the same Lord directs them all.

## 4. Diversities of operations (1 Cor 12:6)

a) The gifts of the Spirit operating in different people in different ways. The Spirit works differently in our lives, according to our own unique personalities and idiosyncrasies. Be careful not to think that a particular gift should work in someone else the same exact way that gift operates in you. It is also important be careful not to think that God is confined to your personality or idiosyncrasies. Just be open for Him to lead you in these things.

b) Not only does the Spirit of God give gifts “to every man severally as He will” but he also He also wants to operate in our lives, sovereignly and according to His will.

## 5. What gifts do you have and why (1 Cor 12:11)

a) Knowing what spiritual gifts you have can come in a variety of different ways. Some know they have a gift and allow the Lord to move through them in the use of that gift.

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<sup>2</sup> Chuck Smith, Living Water Pg. 90

<sup>3</sup> Chuck Smith, Living Water Pg. 90

Others don't know the gift or see the gift that they have but others in the body of Christ see it and bring it to that persons attention.

b) That is why it is so important to be in fellowship. We need each other for so many reasons and this is one of them.

c) You have the gifts you have because that is the will of God<sup>66</sup>

#### 6. To profit withal (1 Cor 12:7)

a) The purpose of the spiritual gifts is to benefit the whole body. They are not given for our personal profit. God has given to each of us a gift that is to be used to bless the whole church.

(1) the one exception is the gift of tongues 1 Corinthians 14:4 "He that speaketh in an [unknown] tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church."

#### 7. The best gifts

a) The chapter ends with... "But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way."

b) we need the best gifts, not any gifts but the best gifts.

c) What are the best gifts?

(1) "The word "best" is a relative word. The best gifts for what?The best gifts for whatever ministry is needed in the body of Christ at that moment<sup>4</sup>"

d) Covet earnestly

(1) The Bible is usually against coveting but here we see that we are instructed to covet the best spiritual gifts.

(a) The word means "to burn with zeal"

e) A more excellent way

(1) Love! "Love is the fairest and best in himself and the cause of what is fairest and best in all other things<sup>5</sup>"

(2) We need to let love be the motive for the use of the gifts of the Spirit. Love for God which is displayed in obedience to His word (John 14:21) and love for the Body which is displayed in the selfless usage of the gifts for the building up of the whole body.

Amen

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<sup>4</sup> Chuck Smith, Living Water Pg. 94

<sup>5</sup> Plato, "Symposium," Pg. 197