

The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 21

The Giver of Spiritual Gifts...the Holy Spirit
The Doctrine of the Deity of the Holy Spirit
Part 3



Wednesday, January 26, 2011

Gal 4:6 "Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!'"

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If YOU have never believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Simply tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sin of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. *(Acts 16:31) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved."* *(John 3:16) "God loved the world so much that He gave His One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*



Lesson

We're moving right along with our Doctrine on the Deity of God the Holy Spirit and I believe we have seen solid proof from the Holy Scriptures...our Bible that the Holy Spirit is definitely God. But let's continue and maybe we'll be experts on the subject. It'll be worth it.



We continue with point six:

- 6) The Holy Spirit is called God. In the Old Testament, the Spirit is spoken of as Jehovah in *Isa 61:1*. "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the miserable; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to slaves and freedom to prisoners..."

The Holy Spirit is explicitly called God in *Act 5:3-4*. "But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, (2) and kept back some of the price for himself, with his wife's full knowledge, and bringing a portion of it, he laid it at the apostles' feet. (3) But Peter said, 'Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back some of the price of the land? (4) While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.'" Peter accuses Ananias of having lied to the Holy Spirit, which he declares is a lie against God.

And in *2 Cor 3:17* the Spirit is said to be Lord, which is another reference to Yahweh or Jehovah, which is GOD in the Hebrew language. "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."

- 7) The Holy Spirit is associated with God. The Spirit is associated with the Father and the Son on the basis of equality of Being, which means they are equal Persons in position, and in responsibility. *John 15:26* "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of Truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me..." That word "proceeds" in verse 26 means "out from." The Greek language is much clearer to understand than the English translation we have here. A better translation of this verse is: "The Spirit of the truth who is right beside the Father keeps going forth or travels out from there; this is the One who will keep on bearing witness concerning me." Boy, kids, you're really going to understand the meaning of this verse when we get done with Pastor's explanation. And here's how Kenneth Wuest, a prominent New Testament Greek scholar, translates the same verse: "Whenever the Counselor comes whom I shall send to you from the presence of the Father, the Spirit of the Truth who from the Father's presence proceeds, that One will testify concerning Me." Okay, you have to understand that the Greek words in this passage and the use of one

Greek word *ekporeuo* shows the eternal procession of the Spirit from the Father. That means He comes forth from the Father.

This shows us so clearly that the Spirit is intimately associated with and shares the position and duties of the Father and the Son. Because the Spirit "proceeds" or comes forth from the Father, He is called the Spirit of God and the Spirit of the Father. This is very clear in the following passage when Jesus is explaining to the Apostles that when they are arrested for giving the Gospel they will appear before the counselors and judges in the courts and He was telling them to rely on what the Holy Spirit tells them to say in **Matt 10:20**. "For it is not you who speak, but it is the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you."

Here's another verse that shows that the Holy Spirit is associated with God in **Matt 3:16**. "After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and lighting on Him (17) and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, 'This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased.'"

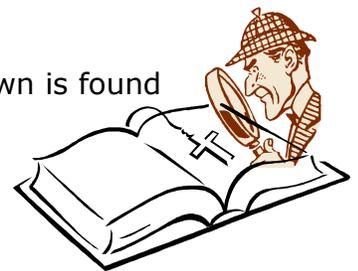


This same Spirit is also called the Spirit of the Son in **Gal 4:6**. "Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!'" And again in **Philip 1:19**. "...for I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ..." And yet again in **Rom 8:9**. "However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him." This last passage in **Rom 8:9** is fascinating because not only is it a Trinity passage, but also it shows that:

- (a) The Spirit of God is the Spirit of Christ, therefore God is Christ! This is a deity of Christ passage.
- (b) The Spirit proceeds from the Father AND from the Son. If the Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of the Father because He proceeds from the Father, it follows that since He is also called the Spirit of the Son that He proceeds also from the Son.

8) There's even more proof that the Holy Spirit is God with a series of revelation from the Old Testament to the New Testament.

The title by which the Third Person of the Trinity is most commonly known is found in the opening verse of the Bible. **Gen 1:2** "The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters." The New Testament writers identify their "Holy Spirit" as being identical to the "Spirit of God" in the Old Testament.



For example:

Acts 7:51 "You men who are stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears are always resisting the Holy Spirit; you are doing just as your fathers did." It was their Holy Spirit who was Israel's guide and mentor and whom Israel rejected when they resisted God's plan.

It was God the Holy Spirit who gave Israel its ritual service: **Heb 9:8** "The Holy Spirit is telling this, that the way into the holy place has not yet been disclosed while the outer tabernacle is still standing..."



It was the Holy Spirit who spoke in and through David and Isaiah and all the prophets: **Mark 12:36** "David himself said in the Holy Spirit, 'The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at My right hand, until I put your enemies beneath your feet.'"



It was Jesus that the Holy Spirit visibly came down upon, and Isaiah's predictions were fulfilled that Jehovah would put His Spirit upon His Righteous Servant: **Isa 42:1** "Behold, my Servant, whom I uphold; my chosen one in whom my soul delights. I have put my Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations." **Isa 61:1** The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, Because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the miserable; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to slaves and freedom to prisoners..."

And on the day of Pentecost, Peter announces that the filling of the Holy Spirit is the same thing that Joel promised when He said God would pour out His Spirit upon all flesh. **Acts 2:1-4** "When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. (2) And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. (3) And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. (4) And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues (languages), as the Spirit was giving them utterance."

Acts 2:14-17 "But Peter, taking his stand with the eleven, raised his voice and announced to them: men of Judea and all you who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give heed to my words. (15) For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only the third hour (9:00 am) of the day; (16) but this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel: (17) 'and it shall be in the last days,' God says, 'That I will pour forth of My Spirit on all mankind; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams...'"



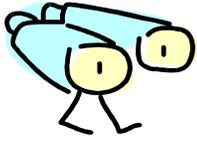
The Spirit of God is everywhere in the Old Testament identified with God. And yet the most direct and complete revelation of the Trinity is given to us in the New Testament. This includes the teachings concerning the Holy Spirit. The full demonstration that He is a real Person, His deity, His equal position in the Godhead, and His unique identity and work, are stated in the New Testament.

The truth concerning the Holy Spirit is a major theme in nearly every book of the New Testament. This is amazing, kids!!!! He appears in every book of the New Testament except **Philemon** and **2nd and 3rd John**. He appears more frequently in the writings of Paul than in the entire Old Testament!!!

So much has been revealed to us concerning this Third Person of the Trinity, and yet there are no contradictions in any of the examples from our Bible. The essentials of this Person, the Holy Spirit, never change. The Holy Spirit who is unveiled in the New Testament is the same Spirit of God who appears in the Old Testament.

Remember, kids, God is immutable (unchangeable) where His character and nature are concerned. You have seen total proof that the Holy Spirit is a real Person and that He is God. Be happy that God never changes His character or nature because that is your GUARANTY He is faithful and will fulfill all that He promises in His Word.

In closing our quest concerning the personhood and deity of God the Holy Spirit, I ask you to end this matter in your own soul. Answer the following questions for me.



Have you seen enough proof from God's Word that the Holy Spirit is a distinct and real Person, and that He is God?

Does He have the intellect, sensibility, and will that marks a distinct individual person?

Does the Bible call Him God?

Does He possess the attributes that are uniquely God's, including sovereignty, omniscience, and omnipotence?

Do the works He performs demonstrate His nature as God?

Finally, do you have a personal and inner proof now that the Holy Spirit is none other than God?

Has He performed in you that which only God could perform?

Has He brought you from death to eternal life?

Has He made you a new spiritual species?

Has He baptized you into Christ, and sealed you as God's own possession?

Does He permanently fill and indwell you when you are born again?

Is He your Mentor and Teacher, supernaturally explaining the deep meanings of the Word of God taught in Bible class?

Are there not times when He prays on your behalf with moanings too deep for words?

If so, then inside your own heart you carry your own personal proofs of the existence, personality, and deity of the Eternal Holy Spirit of God. God bless you all.

Close in prayer

Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on Thursday, September 22, 2010
Lighthouse Bible Church

