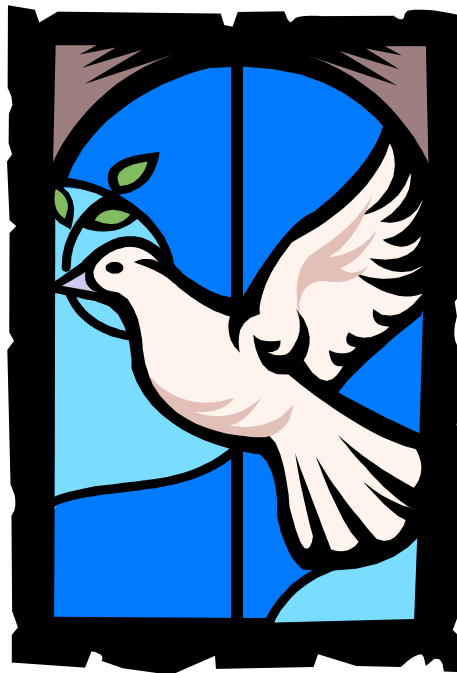


The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 16

The Giver of Spiritual Gifts...the Holy Spirit
The Holy Spirit in the Book of Acts

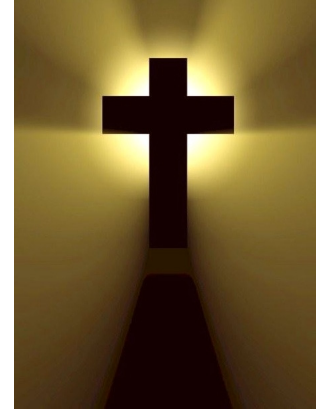


January 12, 2011

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 is One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."



Lesson

Now let's look at the Holy Spirit in action in the book of Acts. It is in the book of Acts where we will see verse after verse where the Holy Spirit displays the qualities of a Person. You remember what they are, right? Intellect (able to think sanely), sensibility (able to have sane feelings) and will (able to make sane decisions) are the three requirements needed to be a person. We learned in the last few lessons that our Holy Spirit qualifies as a real Person.



Now let's explore the Book of Acts and get a true picture of our great Helper, Comforter, and Teacher in action.

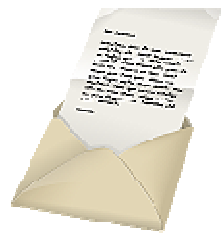
1. Please look at our first passage in **Acts 10:19-20**. "While Peter was reflecting on the vision, the Spirit said to him, 'Behold, three men are looking for you. (20) But get up, go downstairs and accompany them without doubts, for I have sent them myself.'" In this passage the Holy Spirit talks, issues a command, and sends men to the apostle, Peter. As God He definitely has omnipresence, since He can send men to Peter and be with Peter at the same time.
2. While we are on the subject of the Holy Spirit holding conversations with people...talking... let's see a few more places where He does exactly that: **Acts 13:1-3** "Now there were at Antioch, in the church that was there, prophets and teachers: Barnabas, and Simeon who was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. (2) While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.'" (3) Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away." The Holy Spirit not only speaks to these men but He also identifies individuals by name, assigns work, and calls people to that work. He basically functions as an executive (a boss).
3. The Holy Spirit also gives directions in **Act 13:4-6**. This passage shows us two of the three requirements to be a person: intellect (think sanely and direct) and will (make sane decisions). "So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia and from there they sailed to Cyprus. (5) When they reached Salamis, they began to proclaim the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews; and they also had John as their helper. (6) When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they found a magician, a Jewish false prophet whose name was Bar-Jesus." So here the Holy Spirit sends out Paul

and Barnabas. He gives them very specific directions, too: Head down to Seleucia. From there, grab a boat that sails for Cyprus. Land at Salamis. Then head across as far as Paphos.

When was the last time you saw your Dad or Mom when they needed directions, roll down your car window, stuck their head out, and yelled to the wind: "Hey, can you tell me how to get to Sesame Street?" The Holy Spirit is certainly NOT an influence, symbol or the wind!!!! That is a satanic attack on the Person of the Holy Spirit.



4. Now here's a fascinating passage in [Act 15:22-29](#). In fact if anything you could argue that perhaps these guys in the passage are getting a little TOO chummy with God the Holy Spirit. I mean from reading their letter here you might think He was just another one of the guys! Let's look at it: [Act 15:22-29](#) "Then it seemed good to the apostles and the elders, with the whole church, to choose men from among them to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas, Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leading men among the brethren, (23) and they sent this letter by them: 'The apostles and the brethren who are elders, to the brethren in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia who are from the Gentiles, greetings. (24) Since we have heard that some of our group to whom we gave no instruction have disturbed you with their words, unsettling your souls, (25) it seemed good to us, having become of one mind, to select men to send to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, (26) men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (27) Therefore we have sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will also report the same things by word of mouth. (28) For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay upon you no greater burden than these essentials: (29) that you abstain from things sacrificed to idols and from blood and from things strangled and from immorality; if you keep yourselves free from such things, you will do well. Farewell.'" So anyway in [Act 15:28](#), you have the Holy Spirit making a judgment (indicating sensibility), and issuing a command from His plan (indicating will and intellect). He also through these men calmed the believers there that had been upset by some in their church.
5. Now let's look at [Acts 16:6-7](#). "They passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia; (7) and after they came to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the (Holy) Spirit of Jesus did not permit them; (8) and passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas." Here in verses 6 & 7 we have the Holy Spirit issuing commands and prohibitions ("no-nos").
6. The Holy Spirit issues solemn testimony in [Acts 20:22-23](#). "And now, behold, bound by the Spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there, (23) except that the Holy Spirit solemnly testifies to me in every city, saying that friendships and troubles await me." In verse 23 the Holy Spirit is the subject for the verb "solemnly testifies". He is the One who is saying it under oath. He's warning them that not only would they make friends but they would have many troubles as well. The Greek word used here in general means to protest solemnly, to declare emphatically, whether with reference to facts or truths or in the sense of a summons, admonition, or warning. In other words, kids, it's the TRUTH!!!! Lots of big words but simply put...it means He doesn't lie!!!! Look what it shows us about the Holy Spirit, kids! This verb shows us and brings out an intense



personality with a high level of concern (sensitivity) and a strong will...sovereign, you think? Yes sir.

The Holy Spirit actually testifies quite often in the New Testament, for example in: Rom 8:16 "The Spirit himself bears witness with our (human) spirit that we are children of God..." Heb 10:15 "And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us..." and in 1 John 5:6 "This is he who came by water and blood...Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth."

7. He also appoints people to positions in the church in Act 20:28. "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock (church), among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood."
8. Here is another place where the Holy Spirit makes a declaration, and it is a really meaningful and important passage for a second reason as well, which we will get to in another lesson. Acts 28:25-27 "And when they did not agree with one another, they began leaving after Paul had spoken one parting word, 'The Holy Spirit rightly spoke through Isaiah the prophet to your fathers, (26) saying, 'GO TO THIS PEOPLE AND SAY, "YOU WILL KEEP ON HEARING, BUT WILL NOT UNDERSTAND; AND YOU WILL KEEP ON SEEING, BUT WILL NOT PERCEIVE; (27) FOR THE HEART OF THIS PEOPLE HAS BECOME DULL, AND WITH THEIR EARS THEY SCARCELY HEAR, AND THEY HAVE CLOSED THEIR EYES; OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT SEE WITH THEIR EYES, AND HEAR WITH THEIR EARS, AND UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR HEART AND RETURN, AND I WOULD HEAL THEM.'"



You see the Holy Spirit was scolding the Jewish people for not obeying God or living in His plan for them in the Age of Israel. He is using high sarcasm here...He's getting His point across to these stubborn negative Jews.

We have really looked at a lot of passages in the Bible to show you and teach you that your Holy Spirit is REAL and a PERSON and a PERSON OF ACTION!!! See you next time with more information about our Mentor and Teacher. Thank you, Father for Him.

Close in prayer

*Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on Thursday, September 15, 2010
Lighthouse Bible Church*

