

The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 17

The Giver of Spiritual Gifts...the Holy Spirit
A Real Person & Member of the Trinity
With a Job to do

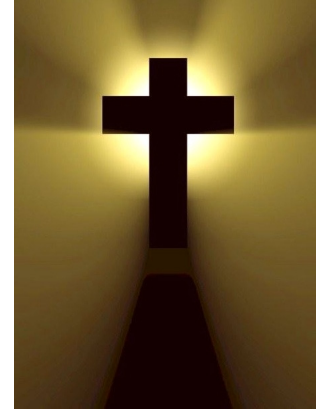


January 16, 2011

Acts 28:26-27 '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.'

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

In our last lesson we looked at eight (8) passages in the Book of Acts where we see that the Holy Spirit clearly acts like a person. In the Book of Acts we saw how He issued commands, how He directed disciples to go to a certain places, how He made judgments, how He stopped disciples from doing certain things, how He appointed believers to certain positions, how He testified for Jesus to unbelievers, and how He made declarations to believers which carry a very clear point to get them moving in the right direction. He truly is a Person and acts like a Person. The Bible clearly proved that.



Let's look again more closely at this passage in the Book of Acts that: **Acts 28:25-27** "And when they (the Jewish leaders) 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.'"

Clearly, this records a speech that the Holy Spirit made hundreds of years earlier. This is a Person and the Person has been around for a long time as you can see.

Let me give you a little background on what made Paul give this very sarcastic speech to the Roman Jewish local leaders before him that day in Rome. He was imprisoned in Rome because the Jewish leaders, (Pharisees & Sadducees) hated Paul's preaching about Jesus. Remember the majority of Jews in Jerusalem rejected Jesus as the Messiah! The Jewish leaders hated Jesus and wanted Paul out of Jerusalem for good because Paul was doing a great job.

Because Israel was part of Rome in that time in history, Paul had to be tried in Rome because Paul was a Roman citizen as well as a Jew and he had the right to be tried in Rome.



Now open your Bibles to the Book of **Acts 28:16-25**. Let's read this in the Bible and see it for ourselves. This passage gives us the explanation we need to see why God the Holy Spirit made this very sarcastic declaration to these Jewish leaders.

The really cool thing about this passage in Acts is something you won't see unless you go to the place in **Isaiah 6:6-10** from where this was quoted.

Isa 6:8 "Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, 'Who shall I send, and who will go for Us (this is the Trinity here)?' Then I said, 'Here am I. Send me!' (9) He said, 'Go, and tell this people (the Jews in Isaiah's time): 'Keep on listening, but do not perceive; keep on looking, but do not understand. (10) make the hearts of this people insensitive, their ears dull, and their eyes dim, otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and return and be healed.'"



HOLD ON!!! Who is speaking here? It's the Lord! That would be Adonai in the Hebrew. Yeah, one of the Hebrew names for God. Let's continue, but actually let's not, because there is that fascinating word "Us" here in this verse, too. Us is the Trinity. All of the Godhead are present here while the Lord talks with Isaiah! The really funny thing about this passage in **Isaiah**, well, OK, it is quoted in **Acts** where the quote tells us that it's the Holy Spirit speaking, and here in **Isaiah** God is speaking so with logic we can come to the conclusion that YES, the Holy Spirit is God. Right? The Bible is so perfect and it is TRUTH.



But wait, we're not done. Oh no. Because the crazy thing is that this passage is quoted AGAIN in the New Testament in the **Gospel of John!!!!** Wow, do you think this is an important point of Bible doctrine? Yes, it is. **John 12:36-41** "While you have the Light (Jesus), believe in the Light (Jesus), so that you may become sons of Light (Jesus)." These things Jesus spoke and He went away and hid Himself from them (the negative Jewish people). (37) But though He had performed so many signs (miracles) before them, yet they were not believing in Him. (38) This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet which he spoke: "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT? AND TO WHOM HAS

THE ARM OF THE LORD (God's omnipotence) BEEN REVEALED?" (39) For this reason they could not believe, for Isaiah said again, (40) HE (GOD) HAS BLINDED THEIR EYES AND HE (GOD) HARDENED THEIR HEART, SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT SEE WITH THEIR EYES AND PERCEIVE WITH THEIR HEART, AND BE CONVERTED AND I HEAL THEM. (41) These things Isaiah said because he saw His glory, and he spoke of Him."

This is the same passage that is quoted in **Acts 28:26-27**, where Paul credits the words to God the Holy Spirit, and it is the same passage which originally appears in **Isa 6:9-10** where Adonai (the LORD GOD) is speaking. Only here, the apostle John writes the following in the last verse 41: "These things Isaiah said because he saw His (Jesus') glory, and he spoke of Him." Only now the "Him" in question is not God the Holy Spirit. No, actually it is Jesus!

This is amazing, kids. This one passage in **Isaiah 6** that gets quoted in **Acts** and **John** demonstrates to us:

1. The fact that the Holy Spirit is a Person.
2. The deity of Jesus Christ...He is God.
3. The deity of the Holy Spirit...He is God.
4. The existence of the Trinity (Father, Son & Spirit)...they are God!!!



So then, I suppose it won't surprise you to learn what the angels were chanting at the beginning of this scene in **Isaiah 6:3**. "And one called out to another and said, 'Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory.'" Count the Holies. There are three of them!!! One for each Member of the Godhead or Trinity!!! Cool, isn't it! I'm excited about this.

Back to our subject about the Holy Spirit talking, directing, speaking, making declarations etc. So let me show you another one before we move on:

In **1 Tim 4:1** He predicts the future! In fact He's talking about the times we live in right now! "But the (Holy) Spirit clearly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons..." Notice that He not only says it but He clearly says it!!! He does it in a very strong way because it is so important and He wants us to get it!!! You must learn this from the Holy Spirit about the Holy Spirit...cool huh?

This verse shows us and includes two of the requirements to be a person...intellect and also sensibility. We know the Holy Spirit has those requirements. He thinks perfectly and He feels perfectly.

All right. Now we have made excellent use of the **Book of Acts**, because that is one of the books of the Bible that really nails it when it comes to the fact that the Holy Spirit is a distinct person. Next time we'll take a trip to Romans and learn even more about our best friend who lives inside of us.

Close in prayer

*Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on Thursday, September 16, 2010
Lighthouse Bible Church*

