

“The Person of the Holy Spirit”

Selected Scriptures

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1. The Holy Spirit is a Person.
 - A. He has a **mind**—“*the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God...no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God*” (1 Corinthians 2:10-11) “*the mind of the Spirit*” (Romans 8:27).
 - B. He has a **will**—“*the Spirit gives to each one a gift as He wills*” (1 Corinthians 12:11; cf. Acts 16:6).
 - C. He has **emotions**—“*do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God*” (Ephesians 4:30).
 - D. He is **personal**—“*the Holy Spirit said, ‘Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them’*” (Acts 13:2); “*the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God*” (Romans 8:27); “*the Helper, the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you*” (John 14:26).
2. The Holy Spirit is Deity.
 - A. He has divine **titles**—“*the Spirit of God*” (Genesis 1:2); “*the Holy Spirit*” (John 14:26); “*the Spirit of YHWH*” (Judges 3:10); “*the Spirit of truth*” (John 15:26); “*the Spirit of Christ*” “*the Spirit of Jesus*” (Acts 16:7) “*the Spirit of life*” (Romans 8:2); “*the Lord is the Spirit*” (2 Corinthians 3:17).
 - B. He has divine **attributes**—He is “spirit”; “omnipresent” (Psalm 139: 7-8); “eternal” (Hebrews 9:14); “grace” (Hebrews 10:29); “glory” (1 Peter 4:14); “holy” (John 14:26); “omniscient” (1 Corinthians 2:10); “omnipotent” (Isaiah 11:2).
 - C. He does divine **work**—the Holy Spirit “creates” (Job 33:4); “gives life” (2 Corinthians 3:6); “inspired” Scripture (2 Peter 1:21); “regenerates” (John 3:6); “baptizes” (1 Corinthians 12:13); “sanctifies” (Romans 15:16); “judges” (John 16:8); and “resurrects” (Romans 8:11).
 - D. He has a divine **association**—**He proceeds from the Father and the Son**—“*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*” (John 15:26); **He shares equal status with the Father and the Son**—“*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all*” (2 Corinthians 13:14); “*baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit*” (Matthew 28:19).
3. The Holy Spirit is Distinct.
 - A. He is **not** the Father—“*the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send*” (John 14:26).
 - B. He is **not** Jesus—“*And I will pray and the Father will give you another [allos] Counselor...even the Spirit of truth*” (John 14:16-17).
 - C. He has a distinct **role**—He speaks for the Father and glorifies Christ—“*When the Spirit of truth comes...He will not speak on His own authority...He will glorify Me*” (John 16:13-14).
4. The Holy Spirit Fulfills the New Covenant.

“*Behold, days are coming,*” declares the LORD, “*when I will make a new covenant...I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it...for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,*” declares the LORD, “*for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more*” (Jeremiah 31:31-34).

“Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances” (Ezekiel 36:26-27).

“Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit, offered Himself without blemish to God...is the Mediator of a new covenant” (Hebrews 9:14-15).

5. The Holy Spirit Convicts Sinners.

“And when He comes, He will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment” (John 16:8).

6. The Holy Spirit Indwells Believers.

A. At **salvation**—*“In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise” (Ephesians 1:13); “if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him” (Romans 8:9).*

B. As a **gift**—*“Repent...and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:38).*

C. As a **pledge**—*“God...gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge” (2 Corinthians 1:22).*

D. As a **seal**—*“you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit” (Ephesians 1:13).*

E. As a **temple**—*“your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit” (1 Corinthians 6:19).*

7. The Holy Spirit Empowers Believers.

A. To witness—*“you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and*

Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

B. To be discerning—*“He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world” (1 John 4:4).*

C. To give us intimacy with God—*“you have received the Spirit of sonship. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ it is the Spirit Himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God” (Romans 8:15-16).*

D. To edify the Church—*“To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good” (1 Corinthians 12:7).*

E. To walk in obedience—*“walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh” (Galatians 5:16).*

F. To understand and apply Scripture—*“we have received...the Spirit Who is from God, that we might understand the gifts bestowed on us by God...we have the mind of Christ” (1 Corinthians 2:12-16).*

G. To enable worship—*“we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh” (Philippians 3:3).*

Recommended Reading

Understanding Spiritual Gifts, Robert L. Thomas

Know the Truth, Bruce Milne

The Moody Handbook of Theology, Paul Enns

God in You, David Jeremiah

The Silent Shepherd, John MacArthur

The New Covenant Ministry of the Holy Spirit, Larry Pettigrew

Keep In Step With the Spirit, J. I. Packer

The Holy Spirit, John Walvoord

The Holy Spirit, Sinclair Ferguson