

7 HOLY SPIRIT



What are the Functions and Attributes of the Holy Spirit in My Life?

The day you received the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, the Holy Spirit of God took up permanent residency inside your body. This third person of the trinity is perhaps the most misunderstood and ignored part of a Christian's relationship with God.

The purpose of this lesson is to give the individual a basic understanding of what the Holy Spirit of God does in his life.

I. Who Is the Holy Spirit?

- A. He is God, the third member of the Trinity. Matthew. 28:19; 1 John 5:6, 7; Hebrews 9:14; Isaiah 48:16,17
- B. He is a person, not just an unseen "force". Romans 8:27, John 16:7, 8, 13-15 (Note the use of the words "he" and "him").
- C. He is distinct from the Father and the Son.
 - 1. John 14:16
 - a. The Son **prays**.
 - b. The Father **sends**.
 - c. The Holy Ghost comes to **abide**.
 - 2. Acts 2:32, 33
 - a. The Son **exalted** to the right hand of the Father.
 - b. The Father is on His throne.
 - c. The Holy Spirit is received by the Son and given to the church.
 - 3. Luke 3:21, 22 - at the baptism of Jesus
 - a. God the Father said, "Thou art my beloved Son: in thee I am well pleased."
 - b. God the Son was baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan River.
 - c. God the Holy Spirit descended in bodily shape like a dove.

"The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are three separate personalities, with mutual relations one to another, speaking to one another, recognizing each other." - R. A. Torrey

II. What is the Function of the Holy Spirit?

- A. The Holy Spirit convicts of sin. John 16:8-9
 - 1. In the unsaved, He convicts of sin to bring them to salvation.
 - 2. In the saved, He convicts of sin to keep them clean and show them how to live for Jesus Christ.
 - 3. You must understand the difference between conviction and guilt.

- a. Conviction is the stirring of the spiritual, mental, and emotional sensibilities that you have indeed violated or are violating God's righteousness and are in danger of judgment. It is the work of the Holy Spirit upon the conscience of man. John 8:9, Romans 2:15, Hebrews 9:14
 - b. Guilt is the inward manifestation of the convicting power of the Holy Spirit. Recognition of guilt is produced as the conviction of the Holy Spirit is induced. Genesis 42:21, Romans 3:19
 - c. The positive result of conviction by the Holy Spirit leads to repentance, forgiveness, and reconciliation by God and with God. 2 Corinthians 5:17, 18, Hebrews 10:22. The negative result of conviction by the Holy Spirit can lead to a seared conscience and a hardened heart. Psalms 95:8, Romans 1:32, 1 Timothy 4:2, Hebrews 3:13-15
- B. The Holy Spirit creates and regenerates. Genesis 1:2, Job 33:4. In Jesus Christ, you are a new creature, born again by the Holy Spirit. John 3:3-8
 - C. The Holy Spirit seals you once you are saved. Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:30, 2 Corinthians 1:22
 - D. The Holy Spirit bears witness to you of your salvation. 1 John 4:13, Romans 8:16
 - E. The Holy Spirit teaches you the Bible. John 14:26; 16:13-15, 1 Corinthians 2:9-10
 - F. The Holy Spirit intercedes in prayer for you. Romans 8:26-27, Ephesians 2:18
 - G. The Holy Spirit comforts you in time of need. John 14:15-18, 2 Corinthians 1:3-4, 2 Timothy 1:7
 - H. The Holy Spirit empowers you to serve God. Zechariah 4:6, Ephesians 3:16, 2 Corinthians 4:7

III. What is the Result of the Holy Spirit in My Life?

- A. The Holy Spirit of God produces a set of character qualities as you give your life to Him and walk in His power. This set of character qualities is called, the fruit (singular) of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23. It is singular because ALL of these qualities are produced at the same time by a close relationship with the Holy Spirit.
- B. The fruit of the Spirit consists of:
 - 1. Love
 - 2. Joy
 - 3. Peace
 - 4. Long suffering
 - 5. Gentleness
 - 6. Goodness
 - 7. Faith
 - 8. Meekness
 - 9. Temperance

IV. Basic Questions.

- A. What is "being filled with the Spirit", and how can I accomplish this?
 - 1. Comparing Ephesians 5:18-19 and Colossians 3:16 shows that by getting into the Word of God and letting it dwell in your heart, you can produce the same results in your life as being filled with the Spirit. The more you saturate your mind with the Word of God, the closer your relationship to the Holy Spirit will be.
 - 2. Simply walk in the Spirit. Walking is a steady, consistent, natural process of growth. Galatians 5:16-18, 25, Romans 8: 1
 - 3. Allow God to control your life. The filling of the Holy Spirit is not you getting more of the Holy Spirit. You received all of Him at the time of salvation. It is the Holy Spirit getting more of you.

4. Be patient and consistent! Being controlled by the Holy Spirit does not happen overnight. It is a lifelong process of spiritual growth.