

# The Holy Spirit: His Work (Part I)



## ❖ Introduction

- **\*\*Why study the Holy Spirit?** Mystery and Misunderstanding! → Topical Series: ***Pneumatology***
  - His Person: ***Deity*** (Direct Statements/Divine Attributes and Actions/Association with the Father and Son ~ Trinity)
  - His Person: ***Personality*** (Masculine Pronouns/Mind, Emotion, Will/Personal Actions and Our Responses)
- **Outline:** **\*\*EFC**A Statement of Faith (Article 6) and *Evangelical Convictions*

We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ. He convicts the world of its guilt. He regenerates sinners, and in Him they are baptized into union with Christ and adopted as heirs in the family of God. He also indwells, illuminates, guides, equips and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service.

- **\*\*So, why study the Holy Spirit?** Important for our Christian *understanding* (belief) and *living* (behavior)!
  - NB: Sermon Notes posted online.
- **Big Idea:** The Holy Spirit glorifies Christ in the ***world***, and especially in the ***church*** → The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit performs a number of works that are necessary for the sinner to be converted, the saint to live the life that God wants, and the Church to function as the community of the redeemed.

## ❖ He Glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ

- “Umbrella” Purpose: *Helper* (*allos*—Comforter/Paraclete/Advocate) **\*\*John 15:26** and **16:14**
- **\*\*Abuses?**

## ❖ He Glorifies in Evangelism

- **Conviction** (~ bring to light/expose/show to be guilty): **\*\*John 16:8-11**
  - ***Sin*** → Grace ~ continues to convict despite unbelief...
  - ***Righteousness*** → Only the Holy Spirit can convict men of Jesus’ righteousness...
  - ***Judgment*** → *Ruler of this World* = ***Satan*** (adversary) and ***Devil*** (slanderer)
    - Other references (*Satanology*):
      - ◆ ***father of lies*** (**John 8:44**)
      - ◆ ***god of this age*** ~ “whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.” **2 Corinthians 4:4**
      - ◆ ***prince of the power of the air*** ~ “in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air; the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,” **Ephesians 2:2**
    - *Cast out/down* (**John 12:31**):
      - ◆ Past → Satan’s sin (**Lk. 10:18, Isa. 14:12-21**)
      - ◆ Present → defeat of the Cross (**Jn. 12:31, 16:11**)
      - ◆ Future → cast out of Heaven (**Rev. 12:9**) and into Hell (**Rev. 20:10**)
    - **\*\*True judgment = justice!**
- **\*\*We must witness** (in the power of the Holy Spirit) to Christ’s righteousness, not our own efforts (“true vertical”)!

## ❖ He Glorifies in Salvation

- **Quote** (*Evangelical Convictions*): God's Gospel...*originates* in the eternal plan of the Father...*is accomplished* by the earthly work of the Son...and *is applied* by the power of the ministry of the Holy Spirit.
- **Regeneration** → “born again” ~ New spiritual life!
  - “I will give you a **new heart and put a new spirit** within you; I will take the heart of stone out of 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 keep My judgments and do them.” **Ezekiel 36:26–27**
  - “Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is **born again**, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is **born of water and the Spirit**, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.” **John 3:3–5**
  - “But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the **washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit**,” **Titus 3:4–5**
  - “But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, **made us alive together with Christ** (by grace you have been saved),” **Ephesians 2:4–5**
- **Baptism** → Agent placing us into the *sphere* of the Body of Christ (pictured in water baptism) ~ Union “in Christ”
  - “For **by one Spirit** we were all **baptized into one body**—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into **one Spirit**.” **1 Corinthians 12:13**
  - “There is one body and **one Spirit**, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, **one baptism**,” **Ephesians 4:4–5**
  - “Or do you not know that as many of us as were **baptized into Christ Jesus** were baptized into His death?” **Romans 6:3**
  - **NB:** In the NT, the expression “to be baptized *in* or *with* the Holy Spirit” (Gk. *en*) is found 7 times (4 in the Gospels, 2 in Acts, 1 in 1 Corinthians) looking forward or back to Pentecost. To make a distinction (Pentecostalism), the Greek preposition *en* must be given different meanings.
- **Adoption** → God makes us members of His family! (> “mere” justification)
  - “For as many as are led by the **Spirit of God**, these are **sons of God**. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you **received the Spirit of adoption** by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that **we are children of God**, and if **children**, then **heirs**—heirs of God and **joint heirs** with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.” **Romans 8:14–17**
  - “having predestined us to **adoption as sons** by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,” **Ephesians 1:5**
  - “For you are all **sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus**. For as many of you as were **baptized into Christ** have put on Christ.” **Galatians 3:26–27**
  - “Behold what manner of **love** the Father has bestowed on us, that **we should be called children of God!** Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.” **1 John 3:1**
  - **\*\*Abba! Family!**
  - **\*\*Personal relationship with a loving Father who understands us and wants what is best (discipline!) for us!**

## ❖ So What?

- **\*\*SIN** (conviction) - GRACE (salvation ~ r!sp!) - JESUS (glorifies) → Not about us!
- **Big Idea:** The Holy Spirit glorifies Christ in the *world*, and especially in the *church*.

AMDG