

# The Holy Spirit: His Work (Part 2)



## ❖ 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)
  - His Work: ***Glorify*** the Lord Jesus Christ (“Umbrella”) → ***Evangelism*** (Convicts the world of Sin, Righteousness, and Judgment) and ***Salvation*** (Regeneration/Baptism/Adoption).
  
  - **\*\*Confusion!** *Technical* terms ~ different aspects of the Holy Spirit’s work (*distinguish* but not *separate*...)
  
- **Outline:** **\*\*EFCA Statement of Faith** (Article 6):

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 → Scripture!
  
- **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 in Christian Living (*Discipleship*)

- **Indwelling** **\*\*John 14:17**
  - Occurs *once* at the moment of salvation for *all* believers ~ “*But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.*” **Romans 8:9**
  - **\*\*Primary** manifestation of God’s *permanent* presence in the “church age” since Pentecost
    - “*For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, And floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, And My blessing on your offspring;*” **Isaiah 44:3**
    - Peter’s Sermon: “*And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.*” **Joel 2:28–29**
    - **Illus:** Saul ~ “*But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and a distressing spirit from the LORD troubled him.*” **1 Samuel 16:14**
  
  - “*Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?*” **1 Corinthians 3:16**
  
  - **Filling** → occurs *repeatedly*
    - “*And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,*” **Ephesians 5:18**
      - ◆ **Quote** (*Evangelical Convictions*): ...the filling of the Spirit entails a growing submission to God resulting in a heart desiring to worship the Lord in thanksgiving and to love others in humble service → Fruit and Sanctification (maturity)
      - ◆ NB: This is a present (~ continual)/passive/command (not a suggestion) → Compared with being drunk with wine ~ “come under the control of” the Spirit.
  
  - **Sealing** → xxx
    - “*who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.*” **2 Corinthians 1:22**

- “In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were **sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise**, who is the **guarantee** of our inheritance **until the redemption** of the **purchased possession**, to the praise of His glory.” **Ephesians 1:13–14**
- “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were **sealed for the day of redemption**.” **Ephesians 4:30**
- “being **confident** of this very thing, that He who has **begun a good work in you** will **complete** it until the day of Jesus Christ;” **Philippians 1:6**
- **\*\*Security until the day of full redemption!**
  - ◆ **Illus:** Registered Mail (God is Sender/Recipient/Sealer) and Earnest Money

### ➤ **Illuminating \*\*John 14:26, 16:13**

- Cognitive Dimension (~ teaching) → **\*\*Overcome the blinding effects of sin!**
  - “Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the **Spirit** who is from God, that we **might know the things that have been freely given to us by God**. These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the **Holy Spirit teaches**, comparing **spiritual** things with spiritual. But the natural man does **not receive the things of the Spirit of God**, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are **spiritually discerned**. But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one.” **1 Corinthians 2:12–15**
  - “that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the **spirit of wisdom and revelation** in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your **understanding being enlightened**; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power” **Ephesians 1:17–19**
- **Anointing** (3x in NT) → Abused term...
  - “But the **anointing** which you have received from Him **abides** in you, and you do not need that anyone **teach** you; but as the same **anointing teaches you concerning all things**, and is **true**, and is not a lie, and just as it has **taught** you, you will **abide** in Him.” **1 John 2:27**
    - ◆ Definition: “mark off/set apart for sacred purpose” ~ oil: Prophets/Priests/Kings
      - “Then Samuel took the horn of oil and **anointed** him in the midst of his brothers; and the **Spirit of the LORD** came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.” **1 Samuel 16:13**
    - ◆ Context ~ Apostolic Teaching (vs. schism): Person and Work of **Christ** (“Anointed One”)
      - “The Spirit of the Lord **GOD** is upon Me, Because the **LORD** has **anointed** Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound;” **Isaiah 61:1**
    - ◆ Result ~ Understanding of **Doctrinal Truth** (necessary condition) → **The Word** (objective—MSA)
      - Resource! **Holy Spirit’s Illumination** (subjective—often represented by oil in OT)
  - **\*\*Excursus: Truth? Law of non-Contradiction!** → **Not** different ways of looking at the truth!
    - ◆ **Absolutes** ~ Mutually Exclusive! Unlike “Blackwhite”:
      - **Quote** (Orwell): “War is peace. Freedom is slavery. Ignorance is strength.”
    - ◆ Not detached from the W/word (source)!
      - **Illus:** “Inner Light” ~ Quakers
    - ◆ **Quote** (Marshall): The antidote to false teaching is the inward reception of the Word of God, administered and confirmed by the work of the Spirit.
- **\*\* Illumination is not just academic!** (Belief → Behavior)
  - **Quote** (*Evangelical Convictions*): The Spirit’s illumination turns what seems to us mere words of men into a **living** word from God. → **Truth!**

### ➤ **Guiding** → *Moral and Practical* ~ “led by the Spirit”

- Moral
  - “Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the **flesh**. For if you live according to the **flesh** you will die; but if by the **Spirit** you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For as many as are **led by the Spirit of God**, these are sons of God.” **Romans 8:12–14**

- “I say then: Walk in the **Spirit**, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the **flesh**. For the **flesh** lusts against the **Spirit**, and the **Spirit** against the **flesh**; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. But if you are **led by the Spirit**, you are not under the law.” **Galatians 5:16–18**
- Practical
  - “Then **Jesus** was **led up by the Spirit** into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.” **Matthew 4:1**
  - “Then the **Spirit** said to Philip, “Go near and overtake this chariot.”” **Acts 8:29**
- **\*\*Can be inward prompting that is spiritually discerned, or by godly wisdom through and understanding of the Word of God (~ illumination/anointing).**

## ❖ So What?

- **Quote:** Understanding what God wants us to do, assume we understand what He has said!
- **\*\*Indwelling** (permanent resource) → **Illuminating** (understand what God has said) → **Guiding** (led by the Spirit for God-glorifying lives)
- **Quote:** You do it *your* way, I’ll do it *God’s* way!
- **Big Idea:** The Holy Spirit glorifies Christ in the world, and especially in the church.

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