

Lesson 12

"God the Holy Spirit" – Part III

1. Introduction

There are so many different things in reference to the Holy Spirit. The Bible is the only source of truth. The Holy Spirit is the Teacher of that truth. Then, why all the controversy over the subject? Satan, "the accuser of the brethren," is constantly dividing the members of the body of Christ." We allow Satan rule and not the Word of God.

In this lesson, the final lesson on the Holy Spirit, we shall consider some of the difficult subjects. We shall study only what the Bible has to say about the Person or power of the Holy Spirit, the ministering gifts of the Spirit, the sealing of the Holy Spirit, sins against the Holy Spirit and the emblems of the of the Holy Spirit.

II. Basic Scripture:

All the scriptures in Lesson 10. And the following Scriptures to be read:
Romans 4:11; 1Corinthians 12:1, 8-11; 12:28-30; II Corinthians 13:14;
Galatians 6:7-8; Ephesians 3:16; 4:11; 5:18; Philippians 1:19; II Thessalonians 2:13-14; II Timothy 2:19.

III. The Nucleus Of The Truth

There is a tendency to think of power or force as an "it," It is easy to fall into the error of looking upon the Holy Spirit as an "it," an influence, an energy, a power, a force. When we separate the Person from the power of the Holy Spirit, we are in danger of making the Holy Spirit an indefinite mysterious "it." We lose all thought of Him as a Person.

The means of the Holy Spirit doing His work in us is the Word of God.

The Church, the body of Christ, is our school. In the school there are two things – the textbook (Bible) and the Teacher (the Holy Spirit) who makes us understand. The Teacher is a Person, not an "it." The Holy Spirit uses "the Sword of the Spirit," the Bible, to explain, comfort and teach the truth of God. For us to learn and grow, we must believe "the Word of God is living, and powerful, and sharper than a two edged sword" (Hebrews 1:12) We must also believe that the Holy Spirit "will guide us into all truth," To take one without the other is to take the Teacher without the Book—or the Book without the Teacher. The Person of the Holy Spirit keeps us, helps us, seals us, and gives gifts to be used for the glory of God.

IV. The Great Truth: "God The Holy Spirit" Part III

a. The Holy Spirit – A Person – A Power.

1. When Did The Holy Spirit Descend in Power ?

a. Many learned scholars separate the coming of the Holy Spirit from the power of the Holy Spirit . They arrive at this conclusion from

the Scripture in John 20:22, "And when. He had said this, He breathed on them and said unto them, receive ye the Holy Ghost."

Such fundamental writers as Arthur Pink expressed the idea of separating the Holy Spirit's coming from the power of Pentecost.

Arthur Pink, in his exposition of the Gospel of John, Volume III, page 287, writes: "What happened at Pentecost was the baptism of power not coming of the Spirit to indwell them."

b. There are some difficulties in this theory if we compare Scripture Scripture and seek the real meaning of the words of Jesus.

c. Before His Ascension , our Lord expressly said that the promise of the Father was still in the future . Look at Luke 24:49-53 and write in verse 49:: -----

these words were spoken after the words he spoke in John 20:22 and just before His ascension into heaven (Luke 24:51 and Acts 1:4-5).

d. The instruction were repeated in Acts 1:4 by our Lord. The apostle were to wait for the promise of the Father." The "promises of the Father, according to John 14:16-17 was the Holy Spirit Himself. On the day of Pentecost, Peter said, "and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit--" (Acts 2:23). This confirmed the words of Jesus.

e. what happened , then, on the day of Pentecost was the coming of the coming of the Holy Spirit, which the Father had promised to His Son. the Lord Jesus Christ.

f. Paul called the Holy Spirit "the Holy Spirit of Promise" (Ephesians 1:13).

2. Why the Difficulty?

a. The difficulty lies in the fact that one word was translated correctly In John 20:22 you find the word "receive," "Receive ye the Holy Ghost."

The word John is "labete," which can be translated in two ways – "take, accept" or "receive."

the same word is used in John 18:31: "Take Him--and judge Him."

The exact word is translated in two different ways in John 10:18 "--

I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of My Father."

In Matthew 26:26 at the institution of the Lord 's Supper, the Lord said, "Take, eat."

b. Therefore, in John 20:22, when Jesus breathed on His disciples, they quickened in faith and hope. It was not the coming of the promise of the "Father," Jesus gave them the earnest, guarantee of the mighty gift. Jesus gave first the promise, the breath, then the presence, Pentecost

3. The Coming of The Holy Spirit.

a. When we say "the Holy Spirit was given " in John 20:22, and "the power came at Pentecost " in Acts 1:4, we separate the Person from the power as though they were two different things.

b. The Holy Spirit could not have come in power until Jesus had ascended. Jesus said so in John 16:7: _____

c. Jesus "breath" on the disciples to signify that the Holy Spirit had been the Breath of His Life, He had lived in God by the Spirit – He had conceived in Mary by the Holy Spirit. (See Genesis 2:7).

d. The Holy Spirit, the promise of the Father, came in power at the exact time as the exact place, to the exact people as Jesus instructed.

They were ready to take the Holy Spirit, by the hand of faith, on the day of Pentecost; not before, Jesus had said to wait for the promise at Jerusalem. At the end of the ten days they were ready to "take"

Read again John 14:17 and note the words "with in.")

B. The Emblem Of The Holy Spirit.

1. The Bible Contains Similitudes (Resemblance, Likeness, Image).

a. The Bible is a Book of smiles, metaphors, allegories, parables, types, symbols and emblems. To better understand Scripture, we must understand these similitudes:

* simile is a figure of speech in which one thing compared to another. (Example –Psalm 102:6).

* a metaphor is a figure of speech in which one thing is called another. (Example –John 1:29).

* an allegory is a prolonged metaphor. (Example –Judges 9:1-21).

* a parable is a truth illustrated by a factual story—an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. (Example –Matthew 13. Where you find seven parables of Jesus).

* a type is an object or event used to prefigure another object or event. (Example—John 3:14)

* an emblem is a visible sign of an object symbolizing another object or Idea. (Example –Luke 3:22).

* a symbol is a thing or act representing something spiritual. (Example – Genesis 9:12-13).

b. With these words in mind, we are better able to understand the Word of

God as we discuss the "emblems" of the Holy Spirit.

2. The Emblems of The Holy Spirit Named .

a. The dove. In Matthew 3:16, Luke 3:22 and John 1:32. We read of the Holy Spirit descending upon Jesus "like a dove." The Spirit never descended on In this manner. Underline these passages in your Bible. The dove rested upon Christ, "abode upon Him" (John 1:32). The Holy Spirit Christ, abode upon Him and through Him upon all of us who believe.

b. The anointing oil. When the priest in the Old Testament were anointed with oil, it was applied first to the ear—he was to hear God's Word; his thumb—his actions were to be done with holy hands; his big toe—he was To walk with God (Exodus 29:29-31).

The oil is one of the most characteristic of the Holy Spirit. Look up Acts 10:38.

Write in I John 2:20: _____

c. The wind. The word "breath" has the same meaning as "wind" in both Hebrew and Greek and both mean " Spirit ."

Write in John 3:8: _____

Underline Acts 2:2.

d. The fire. Fire signifies the Spirit of God. It is the fire which purifies, consumes, test, illuminates and energizes.

Underline Isaiah 4:4 and 6:6-7.

Write in Acts 2:3: _____

e. The clothing, The clothing of power is another emblem of the Holy Spirit. Look up Judges 6:34, " the Spirit of God clothed Himself upon Gideon." The same thing is said again in II Chronicle 24:20. In Luke 24:49 Jesus said, "ye shall be endued with power from on high." The word "endued " literally means "to put on," "to be clothed," The Holy Spirit is our protection. Clothing is for protection.

f. The seal, We belong to God (If we are saved) and the Spirit seals us Underline Ephesians 1:13.

Write in II Corinthians 1:21-22: _____

Underline John 6:27 and Ephesians 4:30.

The Holy Spirit is the seal and the seal signifies ownership (II Timothy 2:19).

g. The earnest. An "earnest" is a guarantee, a pledge. Three times in the New Testament the Holy Spirit is referred to as an "earnest," that God gives to the saints.

Read II Corinthians 5:5: _____

Write in Ephesians 1:14 _____

The "earnest" is the pledge and token that God will give all He has promised. The Holy Spirit is the "earnest."

C. The Communion Of The Holy Spirit.

1. The Holy Spirit Enters Into Partnership With Believers.

a. Paul gives the great benediction, naming the Trinity.

Write in II Corinthians 13:14: _____

b. The word "Communion" is better translated "fellowship" And these two words are best summed up in our word "partnership."

c. The Spirit enters into a partnership with us rather than takes us into partnership with Him, and we have here a great fact in the life of a Christian. Where we accept Christ, He, the Holy Spirit enters and indwells us and He establishes the partnership on the basis of our acceptance of Christ—not on the basis of our past record. He is always with us as a part. We do have fellowship with Him.

3. The Difference Between His Communion and That of the Father and Son.

a. The same word for "fellowship" is used in 1John 1:3, "Our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ."

One striking thing stands out in that Scripture. It is the absence of any of any reference to the Holy Spirit. There are possible reasons. Observe how the language differ: it is "our fellowship with the Father., "but it is "the "the communion of the Holy Spirit."

In 1John 1:3 we are partakers with the Father and Christ. In II Cor.13:14 the Holy Spirit is a partaker with us.

b. Another thought—the Holy Spirit directs attention away from Himself; therefore, He does not cause His name to be recorded in 1John1:3..

4. The Partnership Is With A Person.

a. His partnership is limited by us. He cannot be a partner in schemes that might have the appearance of sin. His partnership should keep us close to

the Lord Jesus.

b. The partnership is with the Person, the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit shares a common thought with us. "Communion" rises out of "Union," and the Union of the Believer with Christ."

c. Jesus spoke of our relation to the Father through Himself.
Underline John. 17:21 Note the words, "that they also may be one in us."
This relationship is the common ground of the Holy Spirit's communion with us. The cross is in the back; where the Spirit finds Christ in us, He finds the root of Union and Communion.
Pages could be written at this point. Perhaps your soul has been touched to investigate your Partner and your relationship with Him.