

# THE HOLY SPIRIT

By

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## CHAPTER 1

Jesus said: "If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him" (Luke 11:13).

Jesus also said that the disciples would receive power from the Holy Spirit. "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8; Christians today are also disciples.)

There are a number of scriptures pertaining to the Holy Spirit that enable Christians to better understand Him. They are also scriptures that relate how He helps and empowers them.

- The Holy Spirit is the third member of the triune Godhead
- He is sent to Christians as a gift by the Father and the Son, Jesus
- He worked in individuals in the Old Testament but He was not available to all believers until the day of Pentecost and thereafter.
- He regenerates, counsels, comforts, sanctifies, empowers, and guides Christians into all truth.
- He also lives in Christians as the Fruit of the Holy Spirit, which is: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:20-23. All of these Fruit should be manifested by every Christian.)
- The Holy Spirit has very personal feelings. He can be mistreated, grieved, insulted, lied to, blasphemed, resisted, and quenched.
- Christians should be very careful in the way they treat the Holy Spirit, the Father, and the Lord Jesus. They can be assured they will pay the price for any mistreating of any of the Trinity.

The Bible states that everyone will give an account for every word they speak; and for every action, good or bad, they make toward the Trinity and mankind.

## CHAPTER 2

Some denominations do not believe the Old Testament is of any use for Christians; they are incorrect. There is much in the Old Testament that tells about the behavior of the people, and about the work of the Holy Spirit.

It also tells about the ways He dealt with the Hebrews in order to keep them on track towards the birth and life of the Lord Jesus. Below are some

of the things the Holy Spirit did in the Old Testament.

- He selected men for building of the Tabernacle (Exodus 31:1-11).
- He selected and empowered Samson to kill a lion (Judges 14:6).
- He enabled Saul to prophesy (1 Samuel 10:6).
- He gave Solomon a word of Knowledge (1 Chronicles 28:12).
- He instructed the Hebrews (Nehemiah 9:20).
- He warned the Hebrews (Nehemiah 9:30).
- He "transported" Ezekiel to the exiles (Ezekiel 3:14).

There are other scriptures that tell that God empowered men through His Spirit to do what needed to be done at that moment. But there was not an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on mankind as a whole until the day of Pentecost as recorded in the New Testament.

### CHAPTER 3

The Holy Spirit is given to us to guarantee our inheritance: "And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession-to the praise of his glory" (Ephesians 1:13-14).

He is also given as a seal to show we belong to God and to guarantee what is to come: "Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come" (2 Corinthians 1:21-22).

Below is additional information about the Holy Spirit.

- God gives the Holy Spirit without limit: "For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God gives the Spirit without limit" (John 3:34).
- At Pentecost the Holy Spirit came to begin the subsequent performing of all the ministries delegated to Him (Acts Chapter 2).
- The first occurrence of the baptizing work of the Holy Spirit (Acts Chapter 2) marked the birthday of the Christian church.
- Samaritans were saved and granted the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts Chapter 8).
- At Caesarea the first Gentiles received the Holy Spirit; and every believer was regenerated, baptized into the Body of Christians, and filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts Chapter 10).

The Bible makes it clear that all Christians of today have to do to get the Holy Spirit into their lives is to ask the Father for Him. “Jesus said: ‘If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in Heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!’” (Luke 11:13).

I can testify that what Jesus said is true—I asked the Father to give me the Holy Spirit and He did! And when I received Him, my life was immediately changed from being a scoundrel to being a loving father and husband. This miracle came in 1974 when I was forty-four years old. I am now eighty-six years old and the Holy Spirit is still a constant blessing in my life.

I believe every person should be taught about the Holy Spirit as soon as they become a Christian. Much more could be written about the Holy Spirit; in fact books have been written about Him. But every Christian should continually study, and re-study, the Bible because in it are the rules and regulations Christians must follow if they expect of live a Spirit-filled life.

Below are given the Spiritual Gifts and Fruit of the Holy Spirit. But to really get acquainted with the Holy Spirit, a Christian must study the Bible.

The Spiritual Gifts of the Holy Spirit are discussed in Chapter 12 of First Corinthians. These are truly Gifts and a Spirit-filled Christian can receive any one of them. However, a Christian cannot just decide to use one of them—they must be given by the Holy Spirit.

The Gifts listed in Chapter 12 are: Message of wisdom, message of knowledge, faith (to do things that “ordinary” faith cannot do), gifts of healing, miraculous powers, prophecy, distinguishing between spirits, speaking in different kinds of tongues (languages), and the interpretation of them. And these are given by the Holy Spirit “just as He determines.”

The Fruit of the Holy Spirit is listed in Galatians 5:22-23: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

And the most wonderful thing about the Fruit of the Spirit is that every Spirit-filled Christian has access to each and every one of them.

#### AFTER WORD

I pray that every person who reads this little treatise is a Christian filled with the Holy Spirit. But if that is not the case, I encourage that person to become a Spirit-filled Christian. I am sure that they will be forever thankful to the Lord for helping them to become one!

The scriptures cited in this treatise are from the New International Version of the Bible.