

## Session # 8

### The Enablement for Spirituality -- The Ministry of the Holy Spirit

#### Introduction

- A. Every Christian has an acute awareness of the need of spiritual help. We all realize we cannot successfully live the Christian life, nor effectively serve God -- in our own wisdom and strength.
- B. God has not saved us and then left us to flounder about in our own ignorance and weakness. He has made every provision for us. An important part of that provision is the ministry of the Holy Spirit -- He is our "Helper."

#### I. The Person of the Holy Spirit.

##### A. The personality of the Holy Spirit.

- 1. He is a person as affirmed by His attributes of personality. He has intellect (Acts 16:7), emotion (Eph 4:30), and will (I Cor 12:11).
- 2. He is a person as affirmed by His work. He convicts (Jn 15:26), teaches guides (Jn 16:13), prays for us (Rom 8:26), protects (Jn 15:26), (Eph. 1:13,14), gives gifts (I Cor 12:7), baptizes (I Cor 12:13) to name only a few aspects of His work.

##### B. The deity of the Holy Spirit.

- 1. The Holy Spirit is called "God." Acts 5:3,4
- 2. The Holy Spirit has the attributes of deity. The attribute of truth (I Jn 5:6), love (Gal 5:22), holiness (Rom 1:4), eternality (Heb 9:14), and the attribute of omniscience (I Cor 2:10,11) to name only a few.
- 3. The Holy Spirit is given equal recognition as deity along with God the Father and God the Son. Matt. 28:19; II Cor 13:14

##### C. The names of the Holy Spirit.

- 1. He is called "The Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, of Counsel and Might, the Spirit of Knowledge, and of the Fear of the Lord." Is 11:2
- 2. He is called "The Spirit of Grace and Supplication." Zech. 12:10
- 3. He is called "Comforter" (Counselor or Helper) (Jn 14:16-18), "Spirit of God" (I Cor 6:11), "Spirit of Promise" (Eph 1:13), "Spirit of Christ" (Rom 8:9), "Spirit of Life" (Rom 8:2), "Spirit of Adoption" (Rom 8:15), and "Spirit of Grace" (Heb. 10:29) to name only a few.

Comment: It is overwhelming but true! The Holy Spirit is a Person -- God -- and He has come to us to be our Helper -- so we will glorify Jesus Christ.

#### II. The Work of the Holy Spirit.

##### A. Our Father's promise regarding the Holy Spirit.

- 1. He promised a time when all of His people would be anointed alike. Joel 2:28,29
- 2. He promised that the believer may be a river of living water. Jn 7:37-39
- 3. He promised to send the Holy Spirit to be our "Helper." John 14:16-18
- 4. He promised the believer could serve with the Holy Spirit. John 15:26,27

5. He promised that the Holy Spirit would glorify Jesus Christ in us. Jn 16:13,14
6. He promised that the Holy Spirit would empower the believer. Acts 1:8
7. He promised a fulfillment of these promises for all believers. Acts 2:33

Comment: God wants us to understand that the Church is a baptized and anointed Church. As believers we legally possess all the value of Pentecost.  
Note Eph. 1:3; II Peter 1:3

B. Our Father's promise fulfilled in our life as believers.

1. We have been born again by the Holy Spirit. John 3:5; Titus 3:5
2. We have been indwelt by the Holy Spirit. I Cor 3:16; 6:19,20
3. We have been sealed by the Holy Spirit. Eph. 1:13,14
4. We have been baptized by the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:4,5; I Cor. 12:13
5. The believer has been given gifts by the Holy Spirit. I Cor. 12:7-11
6. The believer has been anointed by the Holy Spirit. I John 2:20,27

Comment: Every area of our life -- our every need -- has been covered.

C. Our Father's promise developed for our life as believers.

1. The Holy Spirit is our enablement to enjoy spiritual things. Rom 15:13
2. The Holy Spirit is our enablement for witnessing. Jn 7:37-39; Acts 1:8
3. The Holy Spirit is our enablement for guidance. John 16:13; Rom. 8:14
4. The Holy Spirit is our enablement to understand the Bible. John 16:13,14
5. The Holy Spirit is our enablement to understand salvation. Rom 8:15,16
6. The Holy Spirit is our enablement to understand the grace of God. I Cor. 2:12
7. The Holy Spirit is our enablement for a meaningful life. John 16:14
8. The Holy Spirit is our enablement for daily sanctification. Rom 5:9; 8:13,14; Gal. 5:22,23

Comment: It is God's will that we be "filled with the Holy Spirit" Eph. 5:18

### III. The Biblical Warnings Regarding the Holy Spirit.

A. The sins against the Holy Spirit in general.

1. He is the "Comforter" (believer's Helper) -- all egotistical self-sufficiency and lack of personal involvement through faith and love is a sin against the Holy Spirit.
2. He is the "Spirit of Truth" (believer's Teacher) -- all lack of concern for truth and all failure to live according to the truth is a sin against the Holy Spirit.
3. He is the "Holy Spirit" (believer's Sanctifier) -- all unholy and unspiritual activity is a sin against the Holy Spirit.

B. The explicit sins against the Holy Spirit.

1. We are warned not to resist the Holy Spirit. Acts 7:51
2. We are warned not to lie to or tempt the Holy Spirit. Acts 5:3,9
3. We are warned not to grieve the Holy Spirit. Eph. 4:30
4. We are warned not to quench the Holy Spirit. I Thess. 5:19

Comment: When we have such a great Helper, Teacher, Protector, and Sanctifier -- it is a serious sin not to cooperate with Him.

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