

The Person And Work of the Holy Spirit (2)

Introduction

- A. The Holy Spirit of God is the third member of the Trinity. The three members of the Trinity are all equal in being and attributes. Each is as worthy of worship as the other.
- B. One of the goals of the Holy Spirit for the believer is to lead him into an understanding and an experience of the truth. He has been sent to us and He indwells us so that we may know the provision Jesus Christ has made for us and may be enabled to practice that provision.

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God, that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. I Cor. 2:12

- I. The Holy Spirit is Called the Holy One, I John 2:20.

But ye have an unction from the Holy One and ye know all things.

Observation: The term "unction" in this passage designates a gift or an enablement. This reminds us that the true believer will know the basic truths of Christianity in some rudimentary form. The Holy Spirit is described as "holy" in that is His attribute. When we live an unholy, indifferent or undecided type of life - it is grieving to the Holy Spirit.

- II. The Holy Spirit is Called the Lord the Spirit, II Cor. 3:18.

Put we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Observation: Here the deity of the Holy Spirit is not only taught but we are instructed in His work. He seeks to transform the believer so that he may be more like God Himself. The concept of the mirror is used in this verse to remind us that what people see in us is a reflection, or should be a reflection, of the attributes of God.

- III. The Holy Spirit is Called the Eternal Spirit, Hebrews 9:14.

How much more shall the blood of Christ, Who through the Eternal Spirit, offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the Living God?

Observation: The divine attribute of eternity is emphasized in this title of the Holy Spirit. He never had a beginning. With God the Father and God the Son, the Holy Spirit shares in eternity. We are also taught in this verse how the Holy Spirit sustained the Lord Jesus Christ in His death. Because of the substitutionary work of the Lord Jesus Christ there is a provision for inner cleansing.

- IV. The Holy Spirit is Called One Spirit, Ephesians 4:4.

There is one body and One Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling.

Observation: The oneness or unity of the Holy Spirit is taught in this verse. The context has to do with a statement of basic Bible doctrine. Therefore, the unity of the Holy Spirit is emphasized to show that the diversity of work among believers and the many gifts are all due to the ministry of One Holy Spirit. There is a great lesson that all believers can learn from this.

V. The Holy Spirit is Called the Seven Spirits, Revelation 3:1.

And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write, These things saith He that hath the Seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest and art dead.

Observation: This title of the Holy Spirit emphasizes His fullness of perfection. By use of the number seven (completion) we are reminded of the omnipotence of the Holy Spirit and His enablement to fully meet the needs of every believer and church.

VI. The Holy Spirit is Called the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation, Eph. 1:17.

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Glory, may give unto you the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation in the knowledge of Him.

Observation: This is a part of Paul's prayer. He is asking that the believers may be brought into a deeper knowledge and experience of what it means to belong to Jesus Christ. This is the need of all believers. We must reject our indifference to spiritual matters.

VII. The Holy Spirit is Called the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, of Counsel and Might, of Knowledge and the Fear of the Lord, Isaiah 11:2.

And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him (the Lord Jesus), the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, the Spirit of Counsel and Might, the Spirit of Knowledge and of the Fear of the Lord.

Observation: These titles all indicate what the Holy Spirit was going to be to the Lord Jesus Christ in His earthly ministry. We see manifestation of this in the four Gospels. Now that the Christian is "in Christ" and the Holy Spirit has been given equally to all believers, there is a similar ministry He desires to fulfill in our lives.

VIII. The Holy Spirit is Called the Spirit of Grace and Supplication, Zech. 12:10.

And I will pour upon the house of David and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of Grace and Supplications

Observation: The Holy Spirit has been given so that believers may know and experience the grace of God and be able to pray. When Jesus Christ returns then this promise will be fulfilled in a new way.

IX. The Holy Spirit is Called the Comforter, John 15:26.

But when the Comforter is come, Whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of Truth ... He shall testify of Me.

Observation: The term "Comforter" is better translated "Helper".

Victor M. Matthews