

The Person And Work of the Holy Spirit

Introduction

- A. The Bible clearly teaches that God is one in essence (being) but also three persons. (Matthew 28:19; II Cor. 13:14) The Christian worships God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
- B. It is particularly the work of God the Father to define the will of God, it is the work of God the Son to carry out the will of the Father, and it is the work of God the Holy Spirit to apply the accomplishments of the Son and to bring the will of God the Father to completion. One of the clearest areas where we see this is in redemption.
- C. One of the most encouraging facets of the Christian life is that of the work of the Holy Spirit. He indwells us so that we may know and experience the fullness of the provision of God. (I Corinthians 2:12)

I. The Holy Spirit is Called the Spirit of God, I Cor. 6:11. (II Cor.3:3)

And such were some of you, but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the Name of the lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Observation: In this verse we are not only shown the work of the Holy Spirit to cleanse and transform we are also reminded of His deity. The Holy Spirit is God. Peter reminded Ananias that in lying to the Holy Spirit he had lied unto God, Acts 5:3,4.

II. The Holy Spirit is Called the Spirit of Christ, Romans 8:9.

But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His.

Observation: Here we are taught that that the Christian is one who is indwelt by the Holy Spirit. His presence within us not only designates us as the genuine article but also to make available to us and to lead us into all the fullness of redemption.

III. The Holy Spirit is Called the Spirit of Promise, Ephesians 1:13.

In Whom (the Lord Jesus) ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, in Whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of Promise.

Observation: Throughout the Old Testament it was prophesied that the day would come when the Holy Spirit would be given in a new way (Joel 2:28,29). When the Lord Jesus gave His Farewell Discourse (John 14:16) He explained that the Holy Spirit would soon be given to the believers as the Old Testament promised. This theme in the Bible was made a part of the Name of the Holy Spirit. The promise was fulfilled and He was given on the Day of Pentecost, Acts 2:16-18,33.

IV. The Holy Spirit is Called the Spirit of Life, Romans 8:2.

For the law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Observation: The term "law" in this verse may be interpreted as "principle" or "product". Thus the "law of the Spirit of Life" would be the Gospel and the "law of sin and death" would be the effects of sin and death. The Christian has been set free by the ministry of the Holy Spirit. We have been given the life Jesus Christ died to obtain for us.

V. The Holy Spirit is Called the Spirit of Adoption, Romans 8:15.

For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear, but ye have received the Spirit of Adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

Observation: The Christian is one who has been adopted by God. This is a direct reversal of our former condition of alienation (Eph. 2:12). As an adopted child (John 1:12) the Christian has many rights and privileges. Those emphasized in this verse are freedom, courage and sonship.

VI. The Holy Spirit is Called the Spirit of Truth, John 15:26.

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

Observation: This verse designates two important areas of the work of the Holy Spirit. He is to teach the believer about the Lord Jesus Christ and do so by leading him into a knowledge and experience of the truth.

VII. The Holy Spirit is Called the Spirit of Grace, Hebrews 10:29.

Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith He was sanctified, an unholy thing and hath done despite unto the Spirit of Grace?

Observation: This frightening verse describes the action of the non-Christian in his rejection of the Lord Jesus Christ. One of the three sins here depicted is that of insulting and treating with contempt the ministry of the Holy Spirit. He is the Spirit of Grace in that He makes known the grace of God and brings its beneficial effects into the life of the believing and repentant sinner.

VIII. The Holy Spirit is Called the Spirit of Holiness, Romans 1:4.

And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the Spirit of Holiness, by the Resurrection from the dead.

Observation: The Lord Jesus Christ was proven to be God's Son through the Resurrection. The Holy Spirit was not only involved in the act of the Resurrection but in applying this truth in the lives of believers. Holiness is the product of all of this.

IX. The Holy Spirit is Called the Spirit of Glory, I Peter 4:14.

If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye, for the Spirit of Glory and of God resteth upon you, on their part He is evil spoken of but on your part He is glorified.

Observation: When the believer resists temptation God is glorified.

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