

Knowing Jesus Bible Study Guide #7 The Holy Spirit

© 2013 Thomas A. Bentley (you may copy and use for non-commercial purposes)

Last time we looked at the text:

Titus 3:5-6 (NASB95)

“He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,”

The rebirth and renewal that every Christian receives is the result of the work of the Holy Spirit. In this lesson we look at the relationship of the Holy Spirit to the plan of salvation.

1. When Ananias lied to the Holy Spirit who did Peter say he lied to?

ANSWER: Acts 4:32 - Acts 5:4 He lied to _____.

The Holy Spirit is one of the three persons of the Godhead - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. When Jesus gave the command in Matthew 28:19-20 to teach and baptize Jesus instructed that we do this in the name of all of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

2. What title did Jesus give the Holy Spirit and what role does the Holy Spirit play in Christianity?

ANSWER: John 14:15-18

A. The Holy Spirit is called the _____.

B. The Holy Spirit is the person through whom we have a personal _____ with Jesus.

Notice that Jesus begins this powerful revelation with the phrase “if you love me, you will keep my commandments and I will pray to the father...” From the episode with Ananias above it is clear that willful sin would be extremely dangerous for a person filled with the Holy Spirit. This is why the commandments are mentioned prior to Jesus praying for the Spirit.

3. What is it called when you misrepresent the person or work of the Holy Spirit?

ANSWER: Matthew 12:22-32 (Also Mark 3:22-30) It is called _____ against the Holy Spirit.

4. Can this kind of sin be forgiven?

ANSWER: Mark 3:22-30 _____ YES _____ NO

5. Is there an example of someone who might misrepresent the person or work of the Holy Spirit?

ANSWER: Acts 8:9-24 _____ the magician

NOTE: *Simon was someone who practiced magic arts. He would have been accustomed to the idea that forces could be controlled by incantations and other means. He believed that the Holy Spirit was simply such a force and the fact that he offered to purchase the ability to manipulate what he saw as a powerful force is what brought the sharp rebuke from Peter. The Holy Spirit is a person of the Godhead. To believe that the Holy Spirit is an impersonal force from God is similar to what Simon did and is very dangerous! (Notice what Peter thought about his chances of being forgiven.) Another example of this kind of thinking is when someone convinces you that saying a prayer or chant can help you receive a "baptism" of the Holy Spirit that will manifest itself by speaking in some unintelligible speech. The Holy Spirit can not be manipulated.*

6. The following are some of the characteristics of the Holy Spirit.ⁱ

The Holy Spirit is:

1. Eternal. Hebrews. 9:14.
2. Omnipresent. Psalms. 139:7–13.
3. Omniscient. 1 Corinthians. 2:10.
4. Omnipotent. Luke 1:35. Romans. 15:19.
5. The Spirit of glory and of God. 1 Peter. 4:14.
6. Creator. Genesis. 1:26, 27, with Job 33:4.
7. Equal to, and one with the Father. Matthew. 28:19. 2 Corinthians. 13:14.

7. The following are some functions of the Holy Spirit in the plan of salvation.

1. As Author of the new birth. John. 3:5, 6, with 1 John. 5:4.
2. As raising Christ from the dead. Acts 2:24, with 1 Peter. 3:18. Hebrews. 13:20, with Romans. 1:4.
3. As inspiring Scripture. 2 Timothy. 3:16, with 2 Peter. 1:21.
4. As the source of wisdom. 1 Corinthians. 12:8. Isaiah. 11:2. John. 16:13. John. 14:26.
5. As the source of miraculous power. Matthew. 12:28, Acts 19:11, with Romans. 15:19.
6. As appointing and sending ministers. Acts 13:2, 4, with Matthew. 9:38. Acts 20:28.
7. As directing where the gospel should be preached. Acts 16:6, 7, 10.
8. As dwelling in saints. John. 14:17, with 1 Corinthians. 14:25; 3:16; 6:19.
9. As Comforter of the Church. Acts 9:31, with 2 Corinthians 1:3.
10. As sanctifying the Church. Romans. 15:16.
11. As the Witness. Hebrews. 10:15, with 1 John. 5:9.
12. As the one who intercedes for us in prayer. Romans 8:26
13. As convincing of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. John. 16:8–11.

8. Who else does the Holy Spirit witness about to you?

ANSWER: Colossians 1:27 - _____

Note: You can have a real personal relationship with the Lord and this is how it is possible.

9. What is required for you to get help from the Holy Spirit?

ANSWER: Luke 11:13 You need to _____.

10. What is required for the Holy Spirit to give you power over sin in your life?

ANSWER: Romans 8:1-14 - You must _____ according to the Spirit.

Note: This is so important to understand as a Christian. Becoming spiritual requires the presence of God. This is only possible if we keep our minds on what God has done and is doing through us by the Holy Spirit.

11. What other word is used to describe this and what mental and physical benefits can you receive?

ANSWER: Galatians 5:18-25 Being _____ by the Spirit.

Write three attributes of walking in the flesh.

Write three attributes of walking in the Spirit.

12: What is it called when a Christian fails to follow the Holy Spirit?

ANSWER: Ephesians 4:30 Do not _____ the Holy Spirit.

ANSWER KEY: 1.) God; 2,A) Helper; 2,B) relationship; 3) blasphemy; 4) No; 5) Simon; 8) Jesus Christ; 9) ask; 10) walk; 11) led; 12) grieve.

ⁱ This list and the next from: Torrey, R. A. (1897). The New Topical Text Book: A Scripture Text Book for the Use of Ministers, Teachers, and All Christian Workers (New, revised and enlarged edition., p. 119). Chicago: Fleming H. Revell.