

The PERSON of the Holy Spirit

Challenges in studying the Holy Spirit.

^{NKJ} **John 15:26** " But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

^{NKJ} **John 16:14** "He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you.

- 1) More about Father and Son in Scripture.
- 2) No clear systematic discussions of the Spirit (except John 14-16).
- 3) Descriptions of a Spirit (*Ruach/Pneuma*). How do you describe a spirit?
- 4) Ontological equality with Economic Voluntary Subordination.

The Nature of the Holy Spirit

His Person

The Holy Spirit is a WHO not a WHAT. The Holy Spirit is a HE not an IT.

- 1) Personal Pronouns (the word *pneuma* is neuter in Greek)
John 14:26 "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.
- 2) The Holy Spirit is called *another* (Greek *allos* meaning same kind) Comforter.
John 14:16 "And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever. (also 14:26; 15:26; 16:7) Jesus is called comforter (*paraklete*; 1 John 2:1)
- 3) Personal Characteristics ascribed to Him.
Will- 1 Corinthians 12:11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills. **Intellect- 1 Corinthians 2:11** For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. **Emotions- Romans 15:30** Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit. Also, *intercession* or caring (Romans 8:27).
- 4) Personal Actions are credited to Him.
Regenerates (John 3:5), teaches (John 14:26), bears witness (John 15:26), convicts (John 16:8-11), guides into truth (John 16:13), glorifies Christ (John 16:14), calls people into service (Acts 13:2), speaks (Acts 13:2; Heb 3:7; Rev 2:7), directs people in service (Acts 16:6f.), intercedes (Rom 8:27), searches out (1 Cor 2:10), and works (1 Cor. 12:11).
- 5) He relates to the Father, Son, and people as a person.
Baptismal formula (Matthew 28:19), benedictions, etc. (2 Cor 13:14, 1 Cor 12:4-6; 1 Peter 1:1; Jude 20)
- 6) Personal Treatment by others.
Tested (Acts 5:9), lied to (Acts 5:3), grieved (Eph 4:30), resisted (Acts 7:51), insulted (Heb 10:29), blasphemed (Matt 12:31f.), should be obeyed (Acts 10:19).
- 7) Distinction from His own power.
1 Corinthians 2:4 And my speech and my preaching *were* not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power. (Also Acts 10:38; 1 Cor 2:4; Rom 15:13).

His Deity

- 1) Attributes of Deity are affirmed to Him:

He is *eternal* (Heb 9:14), omniscient (1 Cor 2:10f.; John 14:26; 16:12f.), omnipotent (Luke 1:35; Matt 12:28), omnipresent (Psalm 139:7-10).

- 2) Works of Deity are ascribed to Him:

Creation (Gen 1:2; Job 33:4; Psalm 104:30), regeneration (John 3:5; Ezekiel 36:26-27), inspiration of Scriptures as God-breathed (2 Tim 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21; Acts 1:16; 28:25; Heb 3:7), raising Jesus from the dead (Romans 8:11).

- 3) Words and works are considered works of God in comparing.

Isaiah 6:9 And He (Yahweh) said, "Go, and tell this people: 'Keep on hearing, but do not understand; Keep on seeing, but do not perceive.' COMPARE WITH **Acts 28:25** ...Paul had said one word: "The Holy Spirit spoke rightly through Isaiah the prophet to our fathers, 'keep on hearing, but do not....'".

Genesis 1:27 So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. COMPARE WITH **Job 33:4** The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

- 4) He is called God.

Acts 5:3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back *part* of the price of the land for yourself? ⁴ "While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."

Hebrews 3:7 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you will hear His voice, ⁸ Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness, ⁹ Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works forty years. (Exodus 17:7 they tested Yahweh)

Hebrews 10:15 But the Holy Spirit also witnesses to us; for after He had said before, ¹⁶ "This *is* the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them," ¹⁷ *then He adds,* "Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember ote from Jeremiah 31:31-34 which refers to Yahweh speaking).