The Holy Spirit

(Lesson 1) The Person Of The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit

In this lesson we desire to consider:

- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- The personality of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit Is A Member Of The Godhead

- The term "godhead" is found three times in the KJV. Acts 17:29; Romans 1:20; Colossians 2:9
 - In Romans 1:20, the term is rendered "divinity" in the ASV.
 - While three different Greek word forms are used in these passages, all of them are derivations of *theos*, and denote "deity, divinity, the divine nature, the divine majesty, that which pertains to God, godhead." (Thayer, page 258).

The Holy Spirit Is A Member Of The Godhead

- The term "godhead" is found three times in the KJV. Acts 17:29; Romans 1:20; Colossians 2:9
- theos, defines the quality or character of the essence, substance, or being of one who is God.
 - The Godhead (or godhood), therefore is made up of such Beings as are of divine nature and possess divine majesty.
 - Illustrate: Manhood, childhood, etc.

The Holy Spirit Is A Member Of The Godhead

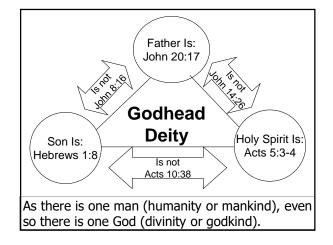
- The Scriptures reveal a plurality of beings in the godhead. Genesis 1:1
- elohim is plural in form.
- The plurality of persons in the Godhead is seen in the pronouns of Genesis 1:26; cf. John 1:1-3

The personalities constituting the plurality of the Godhead are "<u>the</u> <u>Father</u>, <u>the Son</u>, and <u>the Holy Spirit</u>"

- The three were present in the beginning. Genesis 1:1-2; cf. John 1:1-2
- The three were present at the baptism of Jesus. Matthew 3:16-17
- Baptism administered in the name of the three. Matthew 28:18-20
- Paul's entreaty to God involved the three. Romans 15:30
- The conclusion to the saints in Corinth was in the name of the three. 2 Corinthians 13:14

The personalities constituting the plurality of the Godhead are "<u>the</u> <u>Father, the Son</u>, and the Holy Spirit"

- NOTE: Each is individually called God.
- Father. 1 Corinthians 8:6
- Son. Titus 2:11-13
- Holy Spirit. Acts 5:3-4



Identity Of The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is not:

- Some mystical, indefinite, indefinable substance that enshrouds and permeates the universe like a fog or the atmosphere.
- A mere "influence," or vague, impersonal power released in response to human needs.
- The mind, temper, or disposition of God or Christ.
- The Bible, or the New Testament, or the written word of God.

Identity Of The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is:

- God (Deity). cf. Acts 5:3-4
- He is eternal. Hebrews 9:14
- Omnipresent. Psalms 139:7-10; 1 Corinthians 6:19

Identity Of The Holy Spirit

He possesses divine power.

- He creates. Genesis 1:1; Job 26:13; Psalms 104:30
- He works miracles. Matthew 12:28; 1 Corinthians 12:8-11
- He inspires prophets. 1 Peter 1:9-12; 2 Peter 1:19-21
- He teaches men. John 14:26; 1 Corinthians 2:13

Identity Of The Holy Spirit

He possesses divine attributes:

- Power. Romans 15:13
- Instruction. Nehemiah 9:20; 1 Corinthians 2:9-11
- Will. 1 Corinthians 12:11; Acts 15:28
- Comfort. John 14:16-17
- Truth. John 16:13

We must clearly discern this distinction between the ATTRIBUTES of the Holy Spirit and the BEING of the Holy Spirit.

Identity Of The Holy Spirit

He to whom these qualities and powers are attributed must of necessity be a

Divine Person, for such can only be attributed to one possessing both divinity and personality.

The Holy Spirit Is A Divine Personality

<u>He possesses the characteristics of a person:</u>

- Mind ... "The mind of the Spirit." Romans 8:27
- Knowledge ... Knows the things of God. 1 Corinthians 2:11
- Affection ... "the love of the spirit." Romans 15:30
- Will ... dividing as He will. 1 Corinthians 12:11
- Goodness ... "Thy good spirit." Nehemiah 9:20
- Judgment ... Acts 15:28

The Holy Spirit Is A Divine Personality

Actions are attributed to the Holy Spirit which can only be performed by a person:

- He speaks ... 1 Timothy 4:1; Acts 8:29
- He witnesses or testifies ... John 15:26; Romans 8:16
- He teaches and quickens the mind ... John 14:26
- He leads and forbids. Acts 16:6-7

The Holy Spirit Is A Divine Personality

Actions are attributed to the Holy Spirit which can only be performed by a person:

- He searches. 1 Corinthians 2:10
- He hears and shows. John 16:13-15
- He gives commandments. Acts 13:2; 16:6
- He glorifies. John 16:14
- He delivers Law. Romans 8:1-2

The Holy Spirit Is A Divine Personality

<u>He suffers injuries and slights which can only be</u> ascribed to personality.

- He can be grieved. Ephesians 4:30
- He can be despised. Hebrews 10:29
- He can be blasphemed. Matthew 12:31-32
- He can be resisted. Acts 7:51
- He can be lied to. Acts 5:3

The Holy Spirit Collaborates In The Work Of Deity

In the physical creation.

- God (Jehovah) planned it. Jeremiah 51:14-15
- God (the word, Son) executed it. John 1:1-3; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:1-2; cf. 1 Corinthians 8:6
- God (the Holy Spirit) assisted in it. Genesis 1:1,2; 2:7
 - He garnished the heavens. Job 26:13
- He renewed the face of the earth.
- Psalms 104:30

The Holy Spirit Collaborates In The Work Of Deity

In the spiritual creation.

- God planned it. Ephesians 1:8-11
- Jesus executed it. John 4:34;
 Ephesians 1:3-7; 2 Timothy 1:9-10;
 1 Peter 1:18-20
- The Holy Spirit revealed it. John 16:13; Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4; 1 Corinthians 2:9-10; Ephesians 3:1-4

Conclusion: The Holy Spirit is a divine Being ... one of the Godhead or Godhood. As a divine Being He is a person possessing all the qualities of personality. Personality requires individuality, and individuality demands separation and distinction. As a person, He possesses power and influence.

 As a divine Being, He cooperates with other members of the Godhead in carrying out the divine will.