

## **GRIEVING THE HOLY SPIRIT**

### **Ephesians 4:30**

**Introduction:** "lupa" is the Greek word used in the text and it is translated as meaning to "sorrow, to make sorrowful." All of us have been made "sorrowful" at one time or other, somebody hurt our feelings in some way or we became grieved over some event. The rich young ruler went away "sorrowful," and Jesus asked Peter after Peter had denied Him those three times, "lovest thou me?" We know that God, the Father is hurt by our actions sometimes and that also we grieve Jesus as Peter did that time of denial, but we seldom think of our actions ever hurting the Holy Spirit and yet He is the one actually living within us who are Christians. It is the Holy Spirit whom we grieve perhaps the most without ever thinking.

### **I. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS AN ACTUAL BEING, A PERSON**

1. The Holy Spirit is not an "it" or some sort of "force" or type of "motion." The Holy Spirit is part of the Trinity: God, the Father, Jesus, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
2. Grief is a human feeling, emotion which God instilled into Adam and then the rest of us. It involves love, care, tenderness of heart.
3. The Holy Spirit can be hurt. When any of us love, we then can be hurt by those we love, thus it is with the Holy Spirit. Those whom He loves, can hurt Him.

### **II. GRIEF GOES WITH LOVE**

1. The Holy Spirit loves and we are in His heart, mind, care and keeping.
2. Think about it, He touched you, showed you the Lord Jesus, convicted you of your sin, led you to confess Jesus as your savior, then indwelt you upon your profession of faith and now guides you in your Christian life.
3. Yes, the Holy Spirit loves us and therefore we can hurt and grieve Him at times.

### **III. GRIEF ACCOMPANIES CARE**

1. "parakalew" is the Greek word interpreted as "comforter," one who binds broken hearts and is strength, a refuge, a healer who is present in trials and discouragements.
2. Thus the Holy Spirit as comforter shares in our intimate prayer times and often offers words for us, even praying for us when we just don't know what to say.

#### **IV. GRIEF HAPPENS WHEN THERE IS NEARNESS**

1. **Romans 8:11** - There's no person who can be as near to us as the Holy Spirit for He lives within each believer, taking "residence" within the believer the moment of commitment to the Lord Jesus by the believer.
2. Therefore the believer is the "temple" of the Holy Spirit who will also raise the believer after his/her physical death and present the believer in Christ-likeness to God, the Father.

#### **V. THE BELIEVER IS "SEALED" BY THE HOLY SPIRIT**

1. "sphragis" is Greek for "seal" as royalty used a signet ring to place their "seal" upon a document identifying it as their personal property. **Revelation 7:2**
2. The believer has been sealed twice, once publicly and then secretly in heaven.
  - Publicly baptized, identifying with Jesus.
  - Name written in the Lamb's Book of Life in heaven.
  - Cattlemen brand their cattle with their own personal identification marks, thus God has marked every believer by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.
  - God knows who is His and who is not.

#### **VI. WHO GRIEVES THE HOLY SPIRIT AND HOW DOES IT HAPPEN?**

1. A backslidden believer. A believer who doesn't pray anymore, falls out of worship attendance, drifts back into the things of the world.
  - Such a believer has no gladness, no happiness and can be identified by other believers as being out of God's will.
  - However, true believers will return to the way of life they should be living but until they do they grieve the Holy Spirit.
2. A dead Church. A cold, uncaring fellowship, none spiritual services, no one being saved, no body joining the church, just the same old thing over and over again, no real life.
  - Such a "Church" grieves the Holy Spirit.
3. The unrepentant sinner. Any person who keeps saying NO to receive Jesus Christ as his/her savior grieves the Holy Spirit.
  - The Bible mentions that there can come a time when the Holy Spirit will not invite, call or try to bring one to Jesus after that person keeps rejecting the call of the Holy Spirit and that grieves the Holy Spirit greatly.
  - It is important for believers to keep on witnessing, no matter how many times they are turned down.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

1. The Holy Spirit cares greatly and we can grieve Him by our actions.
2. Let us allow the Holy Spirit to have His way in our lives, that's what He's here for.