

THE LESSER KNOW OF THE HOLY THREE

John 14:16-17

Introduction: We are familiar with the "Holy three" our Bible reveals to us. There is God, the Father, and we can understand Him in a Father, Creator, Almighty powerful God with us being His primary interest. Then there is God's Son, Jesus, the Christ and we can understand Him as He was born, lived and died as all human beings do, but for a different purpose for His life than of ours. However the third person of the Holy Three, the Holy Spirit is perhaps more mysterious and different that it is not as easy for us to grasp Him as being a real person. God, the Father is like a Father and Jesus God's Son is like one of us, but the Holy Spirit is different. He is not an "influence" or some sort of "emanation" or something that flows from Heaven. The Holy Spirit is as much an actual person as either God, the Father, or God, the Son, Jesus. So why do we know so little about the Holy Spirit?

I. SOME PERSONAL THINGS ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. The Holy Spirit is Included in Our Baptism Terminology: *Matthew 28:19*

- Not in the "names" of.....but in the "name" of. All three of the God-head, the Holy Three are named as individuals authorizing baptism

2. The Holy Spirit Appeared During Jesus' Ministry

- He was at Jesus' baptism, appearing as a bright light, a flood of glory, in the form of a dove.
- He appeared to the followers of Jesus who had gathered in an upper room as a loud roaring sound, a bright light seen as a tongue of fire resting upon each follower.
- He was seen by eyes and heard by ears of men and women, thus a real person.

3. The Holy Spirit Has His Own Personality

- He has knowledge (*1 Corinthians 2:9-10*)
- He has will (*1 Corinthians 12:11*)
- He has power (*Romans 15:13*)

4. The Holy Spirit is Active (*Genesis 1*)

- He was involved in the creation of all things; moved men to speak, sing, write poetry, music, and to preach. *"...men of old spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.."*
- He told the early Church to *"...separate me Paul and Barnabas for the work..."*
 - He caught up Phillip and moved him; He told Paul to go to a certain city and forbade him from going to another.
- Today the Holy Spirit calls preachers and fills them for their pulpits.
- He convicts, regenerates, quickens the lost; strives with the lost to bring them to Jesus.
- Only a person can do these things.

5. The Holy Spirit Has Feelings

- *"Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.."*
- *"...but they rebelled and vexed His Holy Spirit..."* - *"...Ye stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Spirit..."* - *"...how is it that ye have agreed*

together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord...?

- Only a person can be grieved, vexed, resisted, tempted. Emotions, influences cannot.

II. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE THREE, THERE IS UNITY

1. Each Person of the Holy Three Has a Separate Office.

- *"...I will pray..."* says the Son. *"...I will send..."* says the Father. *"...I will comfort..."* says the Holy Spirit.
- One is before God's throne crying *"...how long?"* and crying and making intercession for us. Another is on the throne listening to the crying and pleas of the One before the throne. The other one is busy down here bringing us to Jesus and comforting us.

2. There is Unity in Their Separation.

- *"...I will pray the Father...and He will send you another Comforter...and he will abide with you forever..."*
- The Son says, the Father listens and sends, the Holy Spirit comes and works.

III. THE HOLY SPIRIT ACTUALLY INDWELLS BELIEVERS

1. He Lives Within Each Believer. Believers are Temples for the Indwelling Holy Spirit.

2. Each Person Indwelt Will Recognize The Holy Spirit's Presence at Some Time or Other.

- In difficulties, the Holy Spirit will give direction.
- In questions of God's Word, the Holy Spirit will give instruction.
- In times of distress, the Holy Spirit will comfort.
- In temptation, the Holy Spirit will restrain.
- In sin, the Holy Spirit will convict.

3. The Holy Spirit Indwells the Believer Forever.

IV. THE UNBELIEVING WORLD REJECTS THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. The Lost, Unbelieving World Cannot See the Holy Spirit, Thus They Cannot Believe.

- Have you ever seen a living soul? Ever hear a soul? Ever taste a soul? Ever feel a soul?
You have one within you.
- Do you ever see pain? Hear pain? Taste pain? Feel pain? Oh yes, that's proof there's pain.
- So it is with the Holy Spirit, once you have ever felt His presence, you know that He is there.
- Ever see the wind? Yet we know there is a wind. Ever see electricity? Yet we know it is real. Thus it is with the Holy Spirit.

2. The Lost, Unbelieving World Does Not Know the Holy Spirit, Thus They Will Not Believe

- If they felt a tug in the heart, or made to tremble under a sense of sin, if the heart had been melted, then they would never have doubted the existence of the Holy Spirit.

CONCLUSION:

1. Christian, you have always heard about the Holy Spirit, Jesus told you about Him, He is as real as you are, so now what? Will you let the Holy Spirit make your life different?
2. For the unbeliever, a warning: Be very careful if you ever speak of the Holy Spirit:
"He that speaketh a word against the Son of Man, it shall be forgiven him, but he that speaketh against the Holy Spirit, it shall never be forgiven him, either in this life, or that which is to come..."
3. Be careful not to laugh at or disbelieve what we Christians call the works of the Holy Spirit for He is as much a person as God the Father and Jesus Christ, the Son of Man...or YOU.