

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TODAY

John 14:16-17; 16:7-11

Introduction: The Bible is God's Word and within it's pages the Father and the Son are revealed with each being described in great detail. In times past God spoke through angels, prophets, then sent His Son, Jesus Christ in person to this world. Since Jesus was not to stay here permanently, beside the written Word of God, how does God stay in touch with each of His children? How could He get them to be able to live and do as He wanted while still in their weak, sinful natural human bodies? He sent the Holy Spirit.

I. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE GIVER OF LIFE (*Genesis 2:7*)

1. Ezekiel had an experience with the Holy Spirit (*Ezekiel 37:1-10*)
2. All people are alive humanly, biologically, but in God's eyes, are dead spiritually.
3. The Holy Spirit "rebirths" people into the Family of God, He gives New Life.
4. The Church was given life when it was started by the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.
5. There were times of weakness in the Church and in individual believers and the Holy Spirit blew new life into the Church and into it's members, like a fresh, cool breeze on a hot summer day, and still does whenever God's people seek His Face.

II. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE SOURCE OF POWER (*Acts 10:37-38*)

1. Mankind has a desire for power, individually, family, community, cities, countries, thus wars and conflicts.
2. The disciples had power to heal, cast out demons and one even tried to buy this power which he did not have (Simeon from Paul).
3. The instinct to survive, self-preservation, the power to survive is common to all of God's creation.
4. The Holy Spirit gives a much greater power than any mentioned: the power to be free WITHIN.
- *Galatians 5:18* - free from all those invisible things that destroy and ruin us - sin - Satan - worry, etc.

III. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE SANCTIFIER (*2 Peter 3:18; Philippians 1:6*)

1. There is a big difference in becoming a Christian and then to continue to go forward in the Christian way. This is the work of the Holy Spirit.
2. "Sanctify" is to grow in grace, to mature spiritually.

3. The Corinthian church is a good example. They had a LONG way to go (*1 Corinthians 6:9-11*)
4. The Holy Spirit continues throughout the believer's life what He (Holy Spirit) started in bringing the believer to salvation (*Galatians 5:22*)

IV. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE REVEALER OF TRUTH (*John 16:12-13*)

1. Every person finds human wisdom insufficient to understand God's will (*1 Corinthians 2:9-11*)
2. There is ONLY ONE valid authority for God's will - the Holy Spirit.
3. No long and rigorous search but the illumination of the Holy Spirit.
4. Danger comes when a person replaces the illumination of the Holy Spirit with his/her own interpretation and thoughts about God's will.

CONCLUSION:

1. The Bible is NOT man's work, but is a gift from God.
2. The Bible reveals what man is really like and where we came from.
3. The Bible reveals God to mankind as:
 - a loving Father
 - an obedient Son
 - the indwelling Holy Spirit.
4. The Bible reveals to man that Jesus is the only way to become a part of the family of God and that faith is the only part that we can do.
5. The Bible reveals that the Holy Spirit is necessary to convict and to bring one to salvation. Immediately indwelling that believer the moment of belief, sealing and marking forever that believer as one of the family of God.
6. The Bible reveals that the Holy Spirit then guides the believer throughout the rest of his/her earthly life into the things of God and reveals the will of the Father and empowering the believer to perform that will.
7. *"...He who has not the Spirit of God is none of His.."*