

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit in the New Testament Church

Selected Texts from Acts
Lesson 8

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
July 22, 2012*

The Holy Spirit

- ▶ The Holy Spirit in the Godhead
 - The doctrine of the Trinity
 - The revelation of the Word of God
- ▶ The Holy Spirit in Biblical history
 - In the Old Testament
 - The expectation of the prophets
 - The life of Christ
 - The teaching of Jesus
 - Pentecost
 - In the history of the early Church
- ▶ The Holy Spirit's particular work in salvation
 - In the unbeliever
 - In the believer
 - In the Church

The Holy Spirit

- ▶ In Old Testament history
 - The interface between God and man
 - Creation
 - Preservation of mankind (Genesis 6:6)
 - Enabling by power or wisdom to do the will of God
- ▶ The Old Testament prophets
 - Unique role in the Messiah
 - Future “pouring” out the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit

► Christ's life on earth

- Preparation of His body
- Anointing
- Power and wisdom
- Resurrection

► Christ's teaching

- Pour out the Holy Spirit
- Convict sinners
- Focus on Christ - teach/remind; bear witness

► Pentecost

- The Promise of God (Acts 1:4-8)
- Outward signs – wind, fire, tongues
- Preaching with power and boldness

The Holy Spirit in the Church Age

- ▶ Very visible time for the Holy Spirit
 - Old Testament: 75 references
 - New Testament: 225 references
 - Gospels: 47 references
 - Acts: 55 references
- ▶ In Acts – action without detailed explanation
- ▶ Major areas of the work of the Holy Spirit in this present age

The Holy Spirit

► Promise

- Joel 2:28-32 – pour out My Spirit on all flesh
- Matthew 3:11 – Jesus will baptize with the Holy Spirit
- John 16:7 – Holy Spirit cannot come until Jesus leaves
- Acts 1:4-5 – wait for the Promise of the Father
- Acts 1:8 – the Holy Spirit will come upon you

► Acts 2:1-13 – The Holy Spirit came upon the believers

► Acts 2:37-39 – Message of Pentecost

- Explanation – Spirit on all flesh . . . all who call on His Name will be saved
- Jesus is the source of this blessing – salvation & Spirit
- He is Lord and Christ
- Repent; be baptized in His Name for forgiveness of sins
- You will receive the Holy Spirit

► Acts of the Holy Spirit

Receiving the Holy Spirit

► Acts 2:1-49 – Believers waiting for the Promise of the Father

- Dramatic fulfillment of prophecy
- Wind and fire
- Tongues – Languages
- Numbers 11:24-25 – “They did not continue doing it.”
- Distinctive for salvation in the current age

► Acts 8:15-19 – Samaritans

- First spread beyond ethnic Israel
- Received the Gospel and were baptized under Philip’s ministry
- Signs and miracles were done – confirming the Divine approval
- Holy Spirit not yet given
- Peter and John came to bring the Holy Spirit to Samaritan believers
- No signs or wonders

Receiving the Holy Spirit

► Acts 10:44-48 (11:15-16; 15:8) – Gentiles

- Gospel sent to the Gentiles
- Cornelius a god-fearing man but unsaved (11:14)
- Holy Spirit fell upon them while Peter preached forgiveness in Christ
- Repeat experience as with the believers in Acts 2 (10:47)
- Speaking in tongues, extolling God
- Baptized

► Acts 19:1-7 – Disciples of John

- No knowledge of the Holy Spirit
- Baptism of John – John baptized those who turned from their sins
- John told them to believe in the One Who would come – Jesus
- They were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus
- Unsaved but upright – must have Christ

Witnessing

- ▶ Acts 1:8 – Promise – you will be witnesses
- ▶ Acts 4:8-13 – arrested; spoke with boldness about Christ
- ▶ Acts 4:31 – prayed; spoke with boldness the Word of God
- ▶ Acts 5:32 – before the Council; we are witness
- ▶ Acts 7:58 – Stephen saw and spoke of Christ
- ▶ Acts 9:17-22 – Paul saw and spoke of Christ

Testing and Resisting the Holy Spirit

- ▶ Acts 4:32-5:6 – testing the Holy Spirit
- ▶ Acts 7:51 – resisting the Holy Spirit

Wisdom and service

- ▶ Acts 6:3-5 – serving tables
- ▶ Acts 6:10 – speaking with Holy Spirit and wisdom
- ▶ Acts 11:24 – Barnabas – ministry in the church
- ▶ Acts 13:9-12 – Discernment for Paul
- ▶ Acts 15:28 – wisdom for the Jerusalem council
- ▶ Acts 20:28 – Holy Spirit made you overseers

Internal ministry

- ▶ Acts 9:31 – walking in the comfort of the Holy Spirit
- ▶ Acts 13:52 – filled with joy and the Holy Spirit

Leading

- ▶ Acts 8:29-39 – leading Philip to the Ethiopian and away
- ▶ Acts 10:19 (11:12) – leading Peter to Cornelius
- ▶ Acts 13:2-4 – leading Paul into a missionary journey
- ▶ Acts 16:6-7 – leading away from Asia
- ▶ Acts 19:21; 20:22-23 – leading Paul to Jerusalem
- ▶ Acts 28:25-28 – leading to the Gentiles

Prophecy

- ▶ Acts 11:27-30 – Agabus predicts famine
- ▶ Acts 21:4-12 – predict Paul's imprisonment

Holy Spirit

► The outpouring of the Holy Spirit

- Initial believing community and new believers at Pentecost
- Samaritans
- Gentiles
- Good, God-fearing people without Christ

► Power to witness

- A clear message
- Boldness
- Personal transformation
- Leading

► The result

- Tongues – 3 instances
- Peace and joy
- Wisdom and discernment
- Spreading the Gospel