

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit Builds up the Church

1 Corinthians 14

Lesson 13

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
August 26, 2012*

The Person & Work of the Holy Spirit

▶ The Holy Spirit in the Trinity

- Co-equal with Father and Son
- Unity and diversity – creation and re-creation
- The Divine Interface

▶ The initial appearance of the Holy Spirit in Genesis 1:2

- “Hovering” over the face of the deep
- Deuteronomy 32:11 “Like an eagle that stirs up its nest, that flutters (hovers) over its young, spreading out its wings, catching them, bearing them on its pinions.”

Two Phases of the Holy Spirit's Work

▶ Phase 1 – Old Testament.

- Largely concealed
- Enabling – power, wisdom, spiritual life
- Psalm 51:11 – “Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.”
- Enlarged ministry anticipated
 - Ministry in the Messiah
 - Ministry in believers – outpouring (Joel)
- Distinctive of the incarnation of Christ
 - Distinguished by the presence of the Spirit (Isaiah 42:1)
 - Pattern for future work
- “Unleashed” by the finished work of Christ

Two Phases of the Holy Spirit's Work

▶ Phase 2 – The Age of the Holy Spirit

- Largely in the background
- Visible in initiation of the current age
- Work in the unbeliever: Convicting and regenerating
- Work in the believer: Baptism into the Body of Christ; Sanctification; guide into Truth; fruit of the Spirit; live and walk by the Spirit; Sword of the Spirit; intercession
- Conform into image of Christ (2 Corinthians 3:18)
- Work in the Church

Holy Spirit in the Church

- ▶ Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastor/teachers (Ephesians 4:11)
- ▶ Wisdom, knowledge, faith, gifts of healing, working of miracles, prophecy, ability to distinguish between spirits, various kinds of tongues, interpretation of tongues. (1 Corinthians 12:8-10)
- ▶ Apostles, prophets, teachers, miracles, gifts of healing, helping, administrating, various kinds of tongues (1 Corinthians 12:28-31)

The Holy Spirit Builds up the Church

- ▶ 1 Corinthians 14
- ▶ 2 spiritual gifts: speaking in tongues and prophecy
- ▶ Principle – the ministry of edification
- ▶ All things should be done decently and in order
 - Properly (Rom 13:13; 1 Thess 4:2) – appropriate
 - In order (6 of 9 - order of Melchizedek or Levi) – assigned position
- ▶ These are gifts for ministry, not personal edification
- ▶ Anticipates future controversy

The Holy Spirit Builds up the Church

Chrysostom (345-407): “This whole passage is very obscure; but the obscurity arises from our ignorance of the facts described, which though familiar to those to whom the apostle wrote, have ceased to occur.”

“The Double Cure”

- ▶ “Rock of Ages”
 - Be of sin the double cure, save from wrath and make me pure
- ▶ Wesley – second blessing (1738)
- ▶ Late 1800's, “second blessing” became identified with signs – tongues, barking . . . ecstatic experiences
- ▶ Azusa Street revival, Los Angeles, 1906–1909 pastor William J. Seymour

Spiritual Gifts

- ▶ 1 Corinthians 14 sets the principles
- ▶ Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastor/teachers, wisdom, knowledge, faith, gifts of healing, working of miracles, prophecy, ability to distinguish between spirits, various kinds of tongues, interpretation of tongues, helping, administrating
- ▶ Some are no longer present in the Church: apostles, prophets, gifts of healing, various kinds of tongues
- ▶ Follow the rules!

First principles for 1 Corinthians 14

- ▶ Tongues means languages
- ▶ Speaker with tongues is in a state of calm self-control
- ▶ What he said was intelligible to himself and could be interpreted to others
- ▶ Unintelligibility of what was said, arose not from the sounds uttered being inarticulate, but from the ignorance of the hearer

Prophecy and Tongues (14:1-12)

- ▶ Prophecy is the superior gift
- ▶ Tongues – not understood
- ▶ Prophecy – speaks to the people for their benefit
- ▶ Tongues helpful if there is an interpreter
 - Tongues without benefit unless there is truth or prophecy (v.6)
 - Analogy: musical instruments; battle trumpet
 - Purpose of language – “no tongue is not a tongue” (v.10)
 - Tongues separate unless there is interpretation
- ▶ If you are eager for manifestations of the Spirit, seek to build up the Church (14:12)

Prophecy and Tongues (14:13-19)

- ▶ Pray for the power to interpret
 - A fruitful mind
 - Tongues here are not babbling sounds of ecstasy.
- ▶ Paul had the gift of tongues
 - Exercised it many times
 - Preferred prophecy

Purpose of Tongues and Prophecy (14:20-25)

- ▶ O.T. background: Isaiah 28:11, 12; Deut. 28:49
 - Israel rejected the clear teaching of God, so he subjected them to nations they could not understand.
 - Even then, they will not listen to Me – i.e. not a sign for good but wrath
- ▶ Tongues a sign for unbelievers and prophecy a sign for believers (14:22)
- ▶ Unbeliever and ignorant – hear tongues and is offended
- ▶ Unbeliever and ignorant – hear prophecy – convicted and worship
- ▶ Tongues lead to wrath and judgment and prophecy leads to faith

Rules for Tongues and Prophecy (14:26-33a)

- ▶ Gathering together with the gifts of the Holy Spirit
- ▶ Must be for building up
- ▶ Rules for using the gift of tongues
 - Two or three (at most)
 - Each in turn
 - Must be an interpreter – or say nothing

Rules for Tongues and Prophecy (14:26-33a)

- ▶ Early Church prophets – limited or no Scripture
- ▶ Rules for using the gift of prophecy
 - Two or three
 - Others pass judgment – evaluate what they said
 - New revelation takes precedence
 - One by one
- ▶ Gifts of the Spirit are under control of the gifted person
- ▶ God is not author of confusion – no chaos

Rules for women (14:33b-35)

- ▶ Silence in the churches – prophecy or tongues
- ▶ 1 Timothy 2:12 – not exercise authority over a man in spiritual matters
- ▶ Submission to husbands – learn from husband

Submission and Glory

(14:36-40)

- ▶ God determines the order of His work (12:7, 18)
 - Paul is teaching the Word of God
 - Do not forbid tongues
- ▶ The work of the Spirit is to conform to image of Christ
 - He does a personal work within the believer
 - He works through the Church with gifts
- ▶ Same intent for miraculous gifts or more mundane gifts
- ▶ Do all things decently and in order – God's ways and means