

THE GODHEAD - A CLOSER LOOK (Part 4)

I. MANKIND'S CURRENT RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.

- A. What He does for us.
1. He convicts us of sin. **John 16:7-11**. Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. **8** And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: **9** of sin, because they do not believe in Me; **10** of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; **11** of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.
 2. He washes us. Cleanses us. **1 Corinthians 6:11**. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.
 3. He sanctifies us. **2 Thessalonians 2:13**. But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth
 4. He justifies us. **1 Corinthians 6:11**. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.
 5. He saves us. **Titus 3:5-7**. Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, **6** whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, **7** that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.
 6. He comforts us. **Acts 9:31**. Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied.
 7. He teaches. **1 Corinthians 2:13**. These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.
 8. He seals us. **Ephesians 1:13**. In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise
 - a) Seal - To mark a person or thing; to set a mark upon by the impress of a stamp or seal; to confirm, authenticate, place beyond doubt.
 - b) In some way, the Holy Spirit sets a mark upon a Christian. He confirms and authenticates them.
 9. He dwells within the Christian. **1 Corinthians 6:19**. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?
 10. He intercedes for us. **Romans 8:26-27**. Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. **27** Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.
 11. But how does He do these things today?
 - a) He convicts the world of sin through His word.
 - (1) **Hebrews 4:12**. For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.
 - (2) Conviction came when they HEARD the truth. **Acts 2:37**. Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"
 - b) He washes us with His word. **Ephesians 5:26**. That He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word
 - c) He sanctifies us through His word. **John 17:17**. Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.
 - d) He justifies us through His word.
 - (1) **Romans 5:1**. Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ
 - (2) **Romans 10:17**. So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

- e) He saves us through His word. **James 1:21**. Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.
- f) He comforts us through His word. **Romans 15:4**. For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.
- g) He teaches us through His word.
 - (1) **1 Corinthians 2:13**. These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.
 - (2) **2 Timothy 3:16**. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness
- h) He seals us through His word.
 - (1) For first century Christians, the Holy Spirit confirmed and authenticated them and their message by the miraculous gifts He gave them.
 - (2) How are we confirmed or authenticated by the Spirit today? When we conform to His word and produce the fruits of the Spirit.
 - (a) **2 Timothy 2:19**. Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity."
 - (b) **Galatians 5:22-25**. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. **24** And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. **25** If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.
 - (c) **Matthew 7:16**. You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?
- i) He dwells in us through His word.
 - (1) While I do not draw lines of fellowship over this issue, please consider the following.
 - (a) **Ephesians 5:18-19**. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, **19** speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord
 - (b) **Colossians 3:16**. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.
 - (2) If he only dwells in us through His word, then what is the gift of the Holy Spirit?
 - (a) **Acts 2:38** is the passage most use to teach that the Holy Spirit literally dwells within the Christian. Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
 - (b) Many believe that this passage teaches that the Holy Spirit is given as a gift to the Christian.
 - (c) Hence, the literal, personal indwelling of the Holy Spirit.
 - (d) But, is the "gift of the Holy Spirit" talking about the Holy Spirit Himself or something that was given by the Holy Spirit?
 - (3) The phrase "gift of the Holy Spirit" or its equivalent is used six other times in the New Testament.
 - (a) **Acts 8:20**. But Peter said to him, "Your money perish with you, because you thought that **the gift of God** could be purchased with money!
 - (b) **Acts 10:45**. And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the **gift of the Holy Spirit** had been poured out on the Gentiles also.
 - (c) **Acts 11:17**. If therefore God gave them **the same gift** as He gave us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could withstand God?"

- (d) **1 Timothy 4:14.** Do not neglect **the gift** that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.
 - (e) **2 Timothy 1:6.** Therefore I remind you to stir up **the gift of God** which is in you through the laying on of my hands.
 - (f) **Hebrews 2:4.** God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and **gifts of the Holy Spirit**, according to His own will?
- (4) In each of those cases, the “gift” is obviously talking about the miraculous gifts bestowed BY the Holy Spirit.
- (a) Paul even calls them gifts that are given by the Spirit. **1 Corinthians 12:4-11.** There are **diversities of gifts**, but the same Spirit. **5** There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. **6** And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. **7** But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: **8** for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, **9** to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, **10** to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. **11** But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.
 - (b) If every other case of the “gift of the Holy Spirit” is referring to miraculous abilities, why does Acts 2:38 have to refer to something different?
 - j) His intercession for us is NOT done through the word.
 - (1) But notice that this intercession is done FOR us and not TO us.
 - (2) Anything that the Spirit does TO us is done with His sword. **Ephesians 6:17.**
- B. What He does not do for us today... that He did do in the past.
1. He does not bestow miraculous gifts today.
 2. He does not continue to reveal truth today.
 - a) **2 Peter 1:3.** As His divine power **has given** to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue
 - b) **Jude 3.** Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was **once for all delivered** to the saints.
 3. He does not place thoughts or ideas in anyone’s mind apart from the word.
 - a) As we have already seen, when the Holy Spirit communicated directly with people (a miraculous event), He did it with words. **1 Corinthians 2:13.**
 - b) **Acts 8:29.** Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go near and overtake this chariot.”
- C. Our responsibilities to Him.
1. We are to worship Him.
 - a) We have already seen from a previous lesson that the Holy Spirit is God.
 - b) God is to be worshipped. **Matthew 4:10.** Then Jesus said to him, “**Away with you, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.’**”
 2. We are to heed His instructions.
 - a) **Revelation 2:7.** “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.”
 - b) In each of the letters to the churches, Jesus utters this phrase.
 - c) To HEAR what the Spirit says is to HEED what the Spirit says.
 - d) **Romans 8:1-2.** There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. **2** For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.
 3. We are not to grieve Him. **Ephesians 4:30.** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.
 4. We are not to quench the Spirit. **1 Thessalonians 5:19.** Do not quench the Spirit.

- a) Quench - to extinguish, suppress, stifle.
- b) What does it mean to quench the Spirit.
- c) Look at the next verses. *1 Thessalonians 5:20*. [Do not despise prophecies.](#)
- d) When we despise His teachings, we suppress and stifle the truth.