

“WE BELIEVE”

Person and Work of the
Holy Spirit

The Importance of Holy Spirit

- Lord told disciples it was actually better for Him to leave (Jn.16:7), He would send the Spirit
- Lord, speaking of Spirit said, *“Apart from Me, you can do nothing”* (Jn.15:5)
- *“He who believes in Me, from his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water”* (John 7:38)
- Apostle Paul: *“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me”* (Phil.4:13)
- *“But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him”* (Rom.8:9)

Jesus, *“I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.”* **John 16:12-15**

You cannot read God’s Word honestly without coming to the conclusion:

The Holy Spirit is as essential to obtaining & sustaining a believer’s spiritual life, as air & water are to sustaining physical life.

Holy Spirit: Tragically Neglected

Few Christians would deny the existence of the Holy Spirit, but:

- millions know nothing about Him (Acts 19:1-2)
- most haven't experienced the power of His presence
- Many don't even know it's possible to consciously experience His presence.

Is a big gap between what the Bible says about Spirit and how most believers and Churches function.

Holy Spirit: Tragically Neglected

Without the Spirit:

We couldn't know our fallen lost condition (Jn.16:8)

We could not be Born Again (Jn.3:3-8)

We could not be Immersed into Christ (Rom.6:3-4)

We could not have Christ living in Us (Col.1:27)

We couldn't Understand God's Truth (1Cor.2:14)

We could not live a new Life (Gal.5:16)

We would not have power for Witness (Acts 1:8)

Why is Spirit largely Forgotten

If Satan's goal (as adversary) is to thwart God's plan and purpose . . . and the Spirit is central to that:

- Seems his most effective strategy would be to get Christians and Churches to ignore the Holy Spirit.
- When Christians operate in own strength, only get human sized results;
- When believer's consciously live in the power of the Spirit, get supernatural results...
 - the church can't help but be different, and the world can't help but notice (Acts 4:13).*

Holy Spirit: largely Misunderstood

Considering verses like, Acts 1:8 “...you shall receive power after the Holy Spirit comes upon you...”, by itself;

Might cause some to think:

- The Spirit is simply a form of power
- An impersonal force to be harnessed
- A mysterious special strength from God

The Holy Spirit is a Person

Has Traits of a Person: not an “It”

The Lord introduced Him by Masculine Pronoun, “He”

- He has a Will (1Cor.12:11)
- He has the ability to think, and know (Rom.8:27; 1Cor.2:10)
- He is able to speak (1Cor.2:13)
- He is able to Love (Rom.15:30)
- Yearns for us (Jas.4:5)
- He can be grieved (Eph.4:30), lied to (Acts 5:3), Tempted (Acts 5:9), Resisted (Acts 7:51), Outraged (Heb.10:29), Blasphemed (rejected, spoken evil of)

The Holy Spirit is a Person

- He dwells in those who believe-trust in Christ (Jn.14:7,16f)
- He teaches and reminds us what the Lord said (Jn.14:26)
- He testifies (Jn.15:26) Witnesses (Rom.8:16)
- He Convicts of Sin (Jn.16:8)
- He intercedes in Prayer for us (Rom.8:26)
- He speaks, shows, guides into Truth (Jn.16:13)
- He Inspires Scripture and uses It (2Pet.1:21)
- Calls and sends people into service (Acts 13:2-4)
- He forbids certain actions (Acts 16:6-7)

The Holy Spirit is God

He is called the Spirit of God, the very Person of God (1Cor.2:11)

- He is Omniscient (1Cor.2:10-11)
- He is Omnipresent (Ps.139:7; Jn.14:17- in all)
- He is Omnipotent (Zech.4:6- “by My Spirit”)
- Referred to as 3rd Person of the Godhead:
 - Not by order of Importance
 - Not by order of when Revealed
 - But, by order of delineation (Mtt.28:19)
- We are indwelt by God, Christ, and the Spirit (1Cor.3:16, 6:19; Col.1:27)

Spirit's – Other Names

- Spirit of God
- Spirit of Christ
- Spirit of Truth
- The Helper-
 - “called along side one”
- Comforter
- Eternal Spirit
- Spirit of Grace
- Spirit of Life
- Spirit of Adoption
- Spirit of Glory
- Spirit of Promise

External work of Holy Spirit

- Creation (Gen.1)
- Dwelling with man on earth (Gen.6:3)
- Restrain evil & evil one (2Thes.2:6,7)
- Convicting world of sinful and lost condition (Jn.16:7-11)
 - Faith comes by hearing, hearing by Word (Rom.10:17)
 - Man left to self cannot find God (Rom.3:10-11)
 - Why? 1Cor.2:14-can't understand; 2Cor.4:4-blinded; Jn.8:34- slaves of sin
 - God must draw (Jn.6:44), He does draw (Jn.12:32)

ILL. Acts 2:47 Hearts were “pierced” by the Spirit

Consequently- those who reject min. of H.S. cannot be saved (Unpardonable sin Matt.12:31-32; 2Thes. 2:11,12; Heb.6)

Internal work of Holy Spirit

- He dwells in those who believe-trust in Christ (Jn.14:16f)
 - He is God's Seal on believers- Security (Eph.1:13-14)
 - Baptizes us into Christ (Rom.6:3-5)
 - He Makes us one Body (Jn.17:20-21, Gal.3:27-28; 1Cor.12:12-13)
 - He regenerates & In-fills (Titus 3:5-6; Eph.5:18)
 - Pers. Assurance; Inner witness (Rom.8:16); Evidence (2Pet.1:4-8)
- He grants Supernatural Peace (Jn.14:27, Col.3:15)
- He Comforts us in Affliction (Jn.14:16; 2Cor.1:3-4)
- He Teaches us all things (Jn.14:26)
 - Reminds us what Christ said; guides in Truth (Jn.16:13-14)
 - Produces Jesus' Character in us (Rom.8:29; Gal.5:22)
- He helps us "interceding" in Prayer (Rom.8:26)
 - Deepens our prayer, beyond words (Rom.8:26)
 - Energizes our prayer in God's presence (Rom.8:27; Eph.6:18)
 - Directs our Prayer according to God's will (1Jn.5:14-15)
- Empowers our witness(Matt.28:18-20; Jn.14:12; Acts 1:8)

Holy Spirit – Difference Maker

- New Conviction (Jn.16:8)
- New Creation (2Cor.5:17)
- New Helper (Jn.16:7)
- New Knowledge (Heb.10),
- New Discernment and Understanding (Jn.16:13)
- New Conscience (Eph 4)
- New Peace (Jn.14:27, Col.3:15)
- New Behavior (2Cor.5:17)
- New Certainty (Rom.8:16)
- New Security (Eph.1:13)
- New Abilities-Enablement
 - Service Gifts (1Cor. 12)
 - Living power (Gal.5:22)
- New Power
 - To Witness (Acts 1:8)
 - To Live (Gal. 5:16)
 - To Pray (Rom.8:26-27)

How can I be Filled/Controlled by the Holy Spirit?

“And do not get drunk with wine, in which is excess, but be [be being] filled with the Spirit” Eph.5:18

Being “Filled with the Spirit”

- It is not having more of the Spirit; but the Spirit (God) having more of us
 - “yield-present yourself as a slave of righteousness; slave of God” (Rom.6:19,22); resulting in sanctification.
 - It’s not so much being “filled” as being “infilled”
 - Those “full” – fully yielded to the Spirit (Acts 6:3); wisdom, speaking the Word-Truth with boldness (Acts 4:31)
- Being Spirit-filled is being Spirit-Controlled (Eph.5:18)
 - Consciously allowing the Spirit to control every aspect of every area of your life (i.e. as alcohol does)
 - “filled”- “pleroo” as in “taken control” (Acts 5:3)
 - Exemplifying Christ (Gal.5:22)

The Galatian Problem

The Galatian Church had been deceived into believing that;

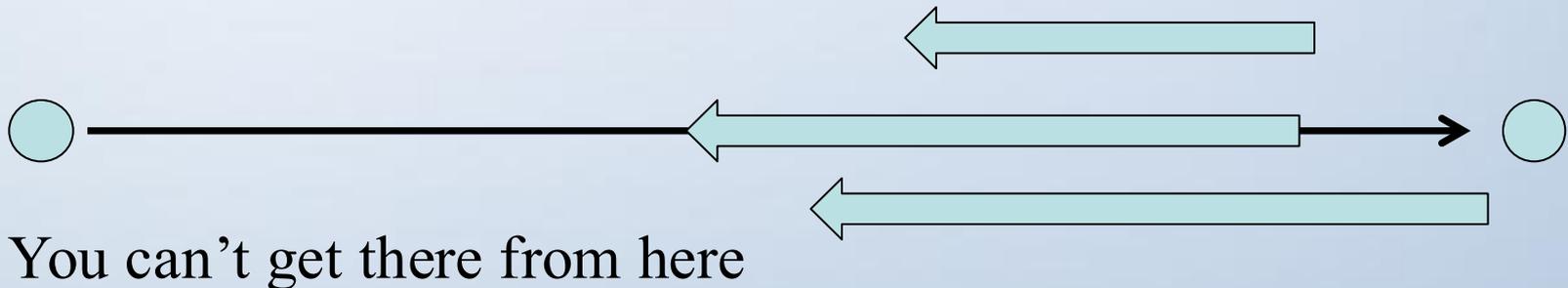
1. We are saved through faith in Christ alone, by the convicting, illuminating and regenerating work of the Spirit
2. We are perfected (sanctified) in our own strength, by following-keeping the law or a set of human rules

Gal.3:3 “Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?”

Spiritual insights from sailing:

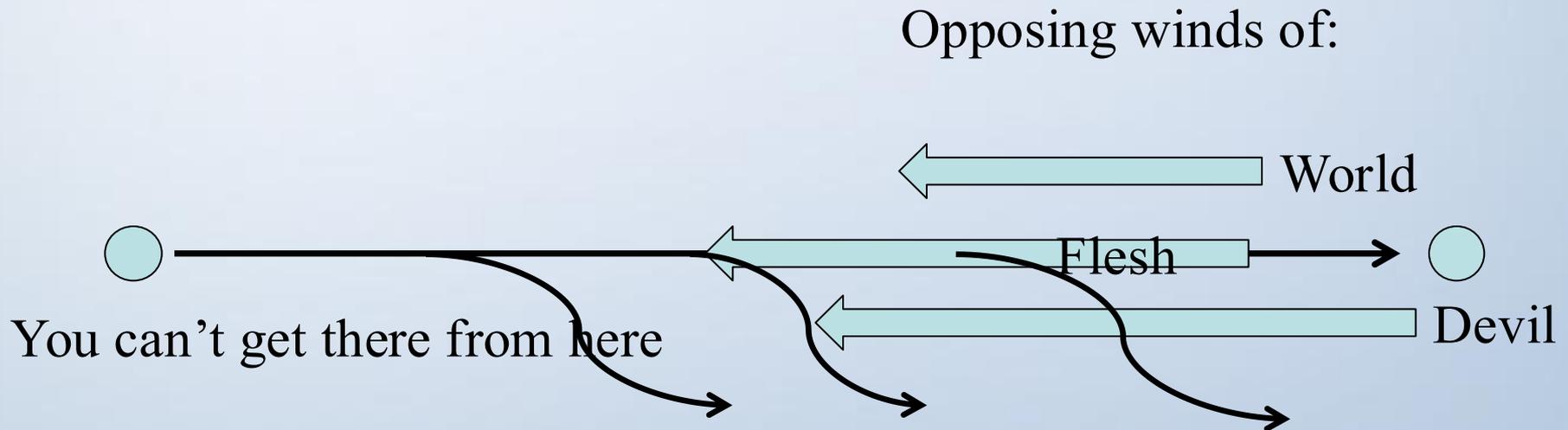
- Despite how it appears, a sailboat is generally not being pushed by the wind
- With the exception of running “down-wind”, a sailboat is actually being pulled by the effect of the wind on the sail
- This allows it to progress at a bit more than a 45 degree angle into the wind; before reaching the “no-go zone”

But in Opposing winds . . .



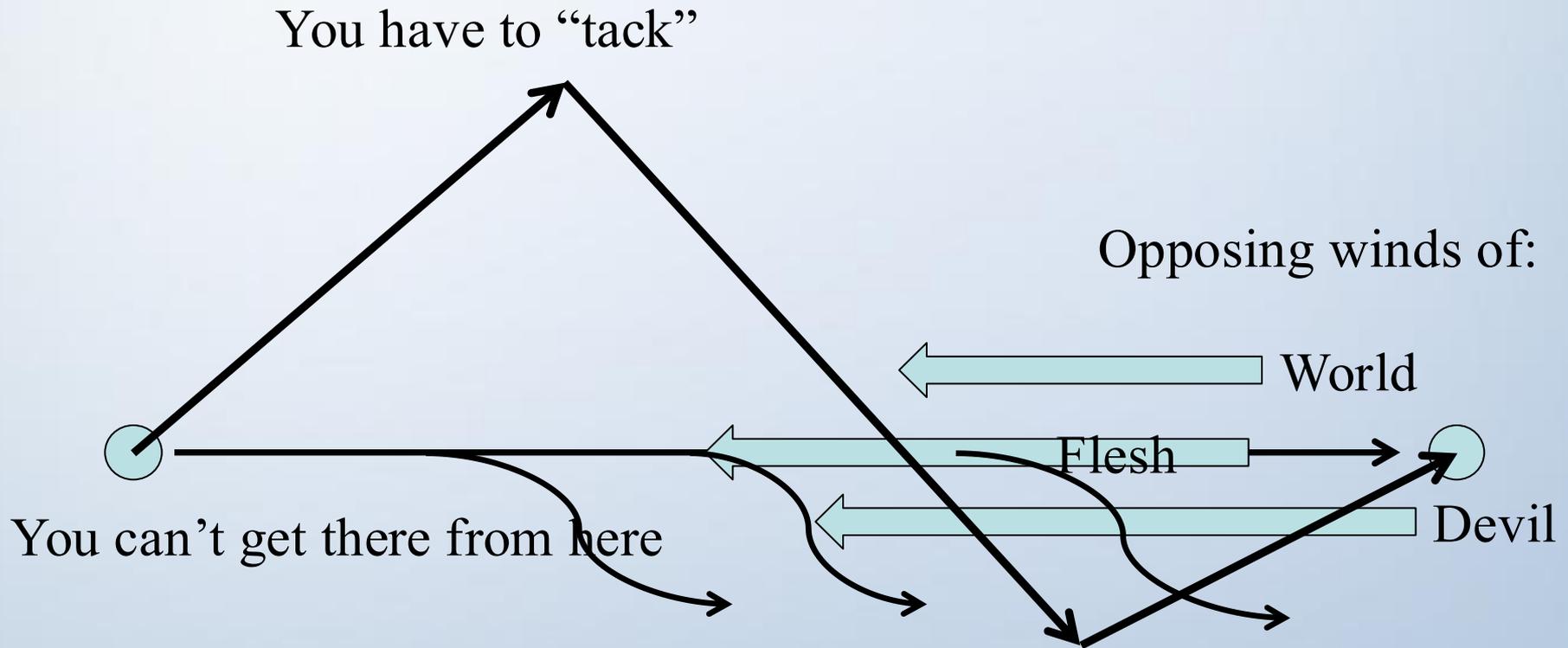
Spiritual lessons from sailing:

- Just like in sailing, you and I cannot navigate into the opposing winds, and reach our destination of personal holiness
- The opposing-winds of the World, the Flesh, and the Devil are the “no-go zone”



Spiritual lessons from sailing:

- Learning to use the practice of “tacking”, to overcome the opposing winds of this world



Learning the secret of “Tacking to God”

