

THE HOLY SPIRIT and YOU

David Huxley is listed in the Guinness Book of World Records in an unusual category: pulling jetliners. He set the record in Sydney, Australia by pulling a 187 ton 747 jetliner 100 yards in one minute and twenty-one seconds. What power!

Christians have been promised greater power than that, but are either unaware of its availability or of how to access it. And so they struggle in their own power for a while, making headway briefly, but soon realizing the challenge is too great for human strength. A better plan is to access the power of God, which He promises to provide through His Holy Spirit.

While having lunch with the disciples on the day of His ascension, Jesus promised,

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1:8 (NIV)

On one occasion when Jesus told His disciples that He was going to leave, He comforted them with the assurance of the Holy Spirit's coming.

"Now I am going to him who sent me . . . It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: . . . 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 you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you."

John 16:5-14 (NIV)

The Holy Spirit was promised to Christians to provide power, comfort, and everything else that is needed to live as a Christian. Before we talk about all He wants to do for you, I think it is only proper that you be introduced to Him.

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

He is a person, not an "it" but "He" (Jn. 16:13)

He wills (1 Cor. 12:11; 2 Pet. 1:21)

He speaks (Acts 8:29; 1 Tim. 4:1; Rev. 2:29)

He has a mind – exercises the power of the mind (Rom. 8:27)

He loves (Rom. 15:30)

He teaches (Jn. 14:26; 1 Cor. 2:13)

He bears witness (Jn. 15:26)

He leads / forbids (Acts 16:6,7)

He feels (grieved--Eph. 4:30)

He is the "other Counselor" (Jn. 14:16) of the same nature and ability as Jesus. In a very real sense, He was sent after Jesus ascended to heaven to take Jesus' place, for He didn't want to leave His followers alone. (What an example of Jesus' love for us.)

HE IS A DIVINE PERSON

Creator (Gen. 1:2)

Eternal (Heb. 9:14)

Omnipotent (Lk. 1:35; Rom. 15:19)

Omniscient (1 Cor. 2:10, 11)

Omnipresent (Ps. 139:1-13; Rom. 15:19)

Holy (Eph. 4:30)

Truth (Jn. 14:17)

He is called God (Acts 5:1-3)
Equal with the Father and Son (Matt. 28:19)

WHAT DOES HE DO?

Only what you allow Him to do!

His designations tell us about His work.

He is like a coach. He comes along side the Christian to do what a coach does.

What kinds of things does a coach do? Teaches, encourages, corrects, helps
Counselor – not to gently help you in your psychosis, but aggressive, demanding, and relentless

Legal advocate –

Teacher – to the apostles, He promised:

“the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”

John 14:26(NIV)

I wish that promise would have applied to me in the context of Algebra!

The promise of Jesus to His disciples is more applicable to us:

“But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.” Matt 10:19-20 (NIV)

He wants to help you overcome sin.

He will walk with you.

He gives you gifts to use in service to God (Rom. 12:6-8; 1 Cor. 12:7-11; Eph. 4:11-13)

Help us pray when we don't know what to say (Rom. 8:26)

“The Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.” Rom 8:26 (NIV)

WHAT WILL HE NEVER DO?

- Act or speak on His own, take glory to or for himself (Jn. 16:12-15) **“He will glorify Me.”** We should not pray to the Holy Spirit.

“When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.”

John 15:26 (NIV)

- Our job (Rom. 10:10)

WHY DO I NEED HIM?

He convicts of sin, righteousness and judgment (Jn. 16:8-11)

He is the Lord's down payment on our salvation. (2 Cor. 1:22; 5:5; Eph. 1:13)

Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.

2 Cor 1:21-22NASU

Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.

2 Cor 5:5 NASU

You were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, Eph 1:13-14 NASU

1. God has guaranteed to us that He will follow through with all He has promised to do.
2. The first installment is of like kind to the remaining payments. Our fellowship with the Holy Spirit is an exact foretaste of heaven.
3. By our acceptance of the down payment, we have transferred ownership of our lives to God.
4. In modern Greek this word is used in the context of an engagement ring. This is an interesting parallel to the church – the Bride of Christ.

Seal declares

- authenticity
- ownership

He will show you the steps you should walk. (Led by the Holy Spirit)

ILLUS. Like stepping in the footprints left by your daddy in the snow

Rom 8:14

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. (NIV)

1 Cor 3:16

Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? (NIV)

1 Cor 6:19

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; (NIV)

You cannot please God without the Spirit (Rom. 8:8-9)

Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

Rom 8:8-9 NASU

HOW WOULD MY LIFE CHANGE?

Fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-25)

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

NASU

DO NOT MAKE A WRONG CONCLUSION OR ASSUMPTION HERE!

This Scripture does not say that the Holy Spirit is needed to exhibit these qualities, as if a non-Christian cannot display love, patience, gentleness, etc. In other words, this is not the means by which to determine if someone is filled with the Holy Spirit. All it is saying is that a person who is filled with Him will exhibit these traits.

HOW DO I KNOW I HAVE HIM?

Only by the promise of the Lord. (Acts 2:38)

Peter said to them, "**Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**"

Acts 2:38-39 NASU

The same way we know we are saved. The evidence must come from **outside** ourselves as opposed to how we feel or what we think. The same way we know we have soul / spirit. You can't feel your soul. Whoever questions whether or not they have a soul or spirit based upon how they feel?

He is a gift received at baptism. God gives Him to us. Not a measure. Not a manifestation. But

Him. Not a piece or a part, but Him. All of Him, all the time.

Rom. 8:16 “**The Holy Spirit bears witness (testimony) with our spirit that we are children of God.**”

The witness of the Spirit is the Bible. When we do what the Spirit says to do to become a child of God (believe on Christ, repent of sin, confess Jesus, immersed into Christ for the forgiveness of sin), then our spirit agrees with the testimony of the Holy Spirit.

WILL HE EVER LEAVE ME?

Only if you evict Him!

HOW DO I TAKE CARE OF HIM?

Don't quench Him (1 Thess. 5:19)

“Quench” – smother a fire When we refuse to follow His lead, we smother His influence.

When we refuse to let Him fill our lives with His blessed fruit, we quench Him. We smother the fire of power and enthusiasm.

Listen to Him (Rev. 2:29)

Don't ignore Him (1 Cor. 3:F1ff)

Don't grieve Him.

- Ignore Him
- Force Him to see and hear what is opposed to His will (e.g., movies, music, etc.).