

The following material may be used, as is and unaltered. No changes are permitted unless expressly authorized by the author.

©2021 R. David Brewer



# A Study of the Holy Spirit

## The work of the Holy Spirit

# The Nature of the Holy Spirit ...

## ...Misconceptions of the Holy Spirit

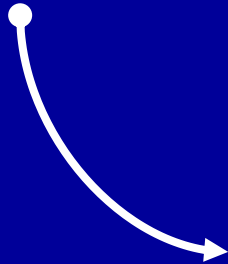
- “Holy Ghost”
  - Something that is not real, fictitious
  - Some mystical or magical being
  - Think in terms of Hollywood type special effects
  - Makes it difficult to think of the Holy Spirit as “real”

# Misconceptions of the Holy Spirit

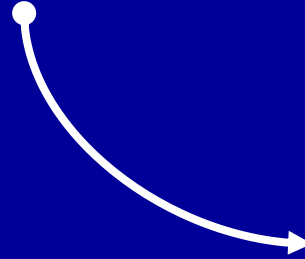
- Somehow different than other members of the Godhead
  - Somehow inferior to God the Father, and God the Son
  - As if there is some hierarchy among the Godhead

# Misconceptions of the Holy Spirit

God the Father



God the Son



God the Holy Spirit

This is often the idea:

God the Father is somehow over the Son (as in superior), who is over the Holy Spirit (as in superior).

# Nature of the Holy Spirit

- God is God
  - There are no “degrees” of being God
  - All members of the Godhead are equal in being and power
    - The Holy Spirit is equal to the Son, who is equal to the Father

# Nature of the Holy Spirit

- There is only ONE God

- Malachi 2:10a

Have we not all one Father? Has not one God created us?

# Genesis 1:26-27

Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” So God created man in His *own* image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.



# Nature of the Holy Spirit

- There is only ONE God
  - Malachi 2:10
  - Genesis 1:26-27
- God is spoken of in both the plural and the singular
  - There is one God, and 3 members of the Godhead

# Equality of the Godhead

- Establishing the equality of the Holy Spirit
- Consider creation:
  - Genesis 1:1-2

# Consider the Creation

## Genesis 1:1-2

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

# Nature of the Holy Spirit

- All members of the Godhead were present at the creation
  - (Genesis 1:1-2; John 1:1-3; Colossians 1:15-18; Psalms 33:6-7; Job 26:13)
- Yet, Genesis 1:1 tells us simply that “God created”
  - Therefore all 3 are God, and equal in their existence



# A Study of the Holy Spirit

## The work of the Holy Spirit

# The Work of the Holy Spirit

- **The Spirit's Work in Creation –  
Gen 1:2; Psa 104:30**
  - Heavens – Job 26:13; Psa 33:6
  - All in conjunction with the works  
of the Word / Son – John 1:1-3;  
Col 1:16
- **Mankind –**
  - First man – Gen. 1:26



# The Work of the Holy Spirit

- **The Spirit's Work in Revelation**
  - **In the Old Testament**
    - Prophets inspired – 2 Pet 1:20-21; 2 Sam 23:2
    - Spirit was “in them” – 1 Pet 1:10-11
  - **In the New Testament –**
    - Spirit to guide in all truth
      - John 16:12-13 cf. John 14:26;  
1 Cor 2:10-13



# The Work of the Holy Spirit

- **The Spirit's Work in Confirmation**
  - **Confirming Jesus as the Christ**
    - Acts 2:22; Acts 10:38; Matt 12:28  
Luke 4:18-21
  - **Confirming the apostles of Christ**
    - **Confirmation of their message**
      - Heb 2:3-4, Rom 15:9





# The Work of the Holy Spirit

- **The Spirit's Work in Regeneration**
  - **As the Word was preached**
    - Spirit convicting the world – John 16:8, Acts 2:4 ff
  - **As the Word was obeyed**
    - Those obedient: baptized! Acts 2:38-41
    - Baptized experienced regeneration
      - Titus 3:5-7; 1 Cor 6:11
      - John 3:5 “born again”



# The Work of the Holy Spirit

- **The Spirit's Work in Sanctification**

- In our *initial* sanctification

- 1 Cor 6:11, cf. 2 Thess 2:13

- Plays important role in living holy lives

Eph 3:16, 20; Rom 8:11-13; Col 3:5-9



# The Work of the Holy Spirit

- **The Spirit's Work in Intercession**

- (Romans 8:26-27 NKJV) 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.



