

14. The Holy Spirit

John 16:7-14

God is generally regarded as one God existing as a trinity of Persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The “Trinity” is just a human way of trying to explain God. It’s not a very good way, but it’s the best we’ve got. On the one hand there is only one God, but each Person has a specific work to do, and is to be worshipped as God. The Father is in heaven providentially controlling all things. The Son, Jesus Christ, came into this world as a man and died to save His people from their sins. The Holy Spirit comes into the heart of each believer to guide them. Christ mentioned His coming to the disciples:

7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

[7] 然而，我将真情告诉你们，我去是与你们有益的；我若不去，保惠师就不到你们这里来；我若去，就差他来。

The Holy Spirit was only to come after Christ had gone away. But people in the Old Testament also had the Holy Spirit:

Psalm 51:11

Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.

[11] 不要丢弃我，使我离开你的面；不要从我收回你的圣灵。

Isaiah 63:10-11

But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them. Then he remembered the days of old, Moses, and his people, saying, Where is he that brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of his flock? where is he that put his holy Spirit within him?

[10] 他们竟悖逆，使主的圣灵担忧。他就转作他们的仇敌，亲自攻击他们。[11] 那时，他们想起古时的日子—摩西和他百姓，说：将百姓和牧养他全群的人从海里领上来的在哪里呢？将他的圣灵降在他们中间的在哪里呢？

But how does the Holy Spirit actually work in a believer? Many people confuse the Holy Spirit with some emotional event, like a nice piece of music, or a good feeling. But we should let the Bible tells us how He works. Firstly, he works in unbelievers:

8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

[8] 他既来了，就要叫世人为罪、为义、为审判，自己责备自己。

He reproveth the world in three ways:

9 Of sin, because they believe not on me; [9] 为罪，是因他们不信我；

He reproveth the world of sin. All men know they are sinners against a holy God. We are all without excuse for our sins:

Romans 1:18-20

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.

[18] 原来，神的忿怒从天上显明在一切不虔不义的人身上，就是那些行不义阻挡真理的人。[19] 神的事情，人所能知道的，原显明在人心里，因为神已经给他们显明。[20] 自从造天地以来，神的永能和神性是明明可知的，虽是眼不能见，但藉着所造之物就可以晓得，叫人无可推诿。

10 Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;

[10] 为义，是因我往父那里去，你们就不再见我；

He reproveth the world of righteousness. Christ, when He was on the earth, reproveth the world of righteousness. After His departure, this is now the work of the Holy Spirit:

John 3:19-20

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproveth.

[19] 光来到世间，世人因自己的行为是恶的，不爱光，倒爱黑暗，定他们的罪就是在此。[20] 凡作恶的便恨光，并不来就光，恐怕他的行为受责备

11 Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

[11] 为审判，是因这世界的王受了审判。

He reproveth the world of judgment. Satan has already been judged by Christ's victory on the cross. No man can avoid the judgment to come:

1 John 3:8

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

[8] 犯罪的是属魔鬼，因为魔鬼从起初就犯罪。神的儿子显现出来，为要除灭魔鬼的作为。

1 Corinthians 15:55-57

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

[55] 死阿！你得胜的权势在那里？死阿！你的毒钩在那里？ [56] 死的毒钩就是罪，罪的权势就是律法。 [57] 感谢神，使我们藉着我们的主耶稣基督得胜。

12 I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

[12] 我还有好些事要告诉你们，但你们现在担当不了。

And then we see how the Holy Spirit works in believers. Christ was only in this world for a short time. But He sent the Holy Spirit to live within every believer as a continual teacher:

Psalms 32:8

I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.

[8] 我要教导你，指示你当行的路；我要定睛在你身上劝戒你。

Instead of teaching us through words, He puts the law in our hearts:

Psalms 119:11

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

[11] 我将你的话藏在心里，免得我得罪你。

Jeremiah 31:33-34

After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

[33] 耶和華說：那些日子以後，我与以色列家所立的约乃是这样：我要将我的律法放在他们里面，写在他们心上。我要作他们的神，他们要作我的子民。 [34] 他们各人不再教导自己的邻舍和自己的弟兄说：你该认识耶和華，因为他们从最小的到至大的都必认识我。我要赦免他们的罪孽，不再记念他们的罪恶。这是耶和華说的。

13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

[13] 只等真理的圣灵来了，他要引导你们明白一切的真理；因为他不是凭自己说的，乃是把他所听见的都说出来，并要把将来的事告诉你们。

He also guides His people into the truth:

1 John 2:27

But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

[27] 你们从主所受的恩膏常存在你们心里，并不用人教训你们，自有主的恩膏在凡事上教训你们。这恩膏是真的，不是假的；你们要按这恩膏的教训住在主里面。

1 Corinthians 2:12-13

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

[12] 我们所领受的，并不是世上的灵，乃是从神来的灵，叫我们能知道神开恩赐给我们的事。[13] 并且我们讲说这些事，不是用人智慧所指教言语，乃是用圣灵所指教的言语，将属灵的话解释属灵的事。

14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

[14] 他要荣耀我，因为他要将受於我的告诉你们。

And He glorifies Christ. He does this by working in us to live Christ-like lives:

Romans 8:13-14

For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

[13] 你们若顺从肉体活着，必要死；若靠着圣灵治死身体的恶行，必要活着。[14] 因为凡被神的灵引导的，都是神的儿子。

Galatians 5:16-18

This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

[16] 我说，你们当顺着圣灵而行，就不放纵肉体的情欲了。[17] 因为情欲和圣灵相争，圣灵和情欲相争，这两个是彼此相敌，使你们不能做所愿意做的。[18] 但你们若被圣灵引导，就不在律法以下。