

The Holy Spirit
December 5, 2021

A. Prayer

B. Review

1. It has been said that the Spirit of God is the most mystical of the Godhead. And yet there is so much written in Scripture and in literature about Him. He is perhaps the most misunderstood of the Trinity and yet there is so much written about Him in the Old and New Testament we shouldn't be left out in the cold about Him.
 - a. **He is referenced to specifically 93 times in the Ot testament with as many or more illusions.**
 - b. **He is referenced over 260 times in the NT.**
 - c. **So there is a lot written about Him.**
2. When we think of the Trinity...the best definition in my opinion is from the Westminster Confession of Faith.
 - a. WCF Chapter 1, Section III- *In the unity of the Godhead there be three Persons of one substance, power, and eternity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. The Father is of none, neither begotten nor proceeding; the Son is eternally begotten of the Father; the Holy Ghost eternally proceeding from the Father and the Son.*
 - b. WSC #5 and #6-
 - (1) Q5: Are there more Gods than one? *There is but one only, the living and true God.*
 - (2) Q6: How many persons are there in the Godhead? *There are three persons in the Godhead; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.*
 - c. WLC #-9-#11
 - (1) Question 9: How many persons are there in the Godhead? *There be three persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one true, eternal God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory; although distinguished by their personal properties.*
 - (2) Question 10: What are the personal properties of the three persons in the Godhead? *It is proper to the Father to beget the Son, and to the Son to be begotten of the Father, and to the Holy Ghost to proceed from the Father and the Son from all eternity.*
 - (3) Question 11: How does it appear that the Son and the Holy Ghost are God equal with the Father? *The Scriptures manifest that the Son and the Holy Ghost are God equal with the Father, ascribing unto them such names, attributes, works, and worship, as are proper to God only.*
3. All of this is good but let's look at the Scripture...
 - a. **Gen. 1:1-2- "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters."** What does this passage specifically tell us about the Spirit of God?

- (1) That he is God! Co-equal, co-eternal, co-existing God...every attribute spoken of about God is His attribute as well along with God the Son...all 3 are one in that sense.
- (2) That He was with God the Father at the beginning...which means He existed before the beginning with the Father and the Son.
- The Holy Spirit is a distinct person-
 - Personal pronouns used- Gen. 2:2; Acts 13:2- *"While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul...'"*
 - Personal properties used to describe-
 - I Cor. 2:10-11- *"these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God."*
 - I Cor. 12:11- *"All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as He wills."*
 - Personal activities-,
 - Acts 13:2- *"...for the work to which I have called them."*
 - Acts 20:28- *"Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which He obtained with his own blood."*
- (3) By virtue of the passage beginning *"In the beginning, God created the heavens of the earth."* this gives us the big picture and then verse 2 begins breaking down that big picture of what God was doing...
- God the Spirit was hovering...moving...superintending over the face of the waters.
 - He was moving along with God the Father, the Son... as we know from the NT specifically...in the pre-action before the Godhead speaks...before Elohim speaks.
 - Elohim...Moses favorite designation for the God head is plural in form as well.
 - The Spirit is the giver of Life and the agent God the Father and the Son uses to give life to the chaos...and He is there for that purpose...
 - Job 26:13- *"By His wind the heavens were made fair;"*
 - Ps. 33:6- *"By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of His mouth all their host."*
 - Matthew Henry states of the Spirit, *"The Spirit of God moved upon the face of the deep in the same way that Elijah stretched himself upon the dead child or as the hen gathers her chicks and hovers over them to warm them cherish them and ultimately protect them."*
 - Form would be forever formless and dark unless the Spirit of God had not quickened it at the direction of the Father and the Son.
- b. Psalm 139:7-8-*"Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my*

bed in Sheol, you are there!" What does this passage communicate to us about the Holy Spirit?

(1) He is God for the Bible equates Him with God in the greater passage.

(2) He is God since He possesses the attributes of God.

- **He is omnipresent.**
- **He is Holy...so Holy that we wish to be out of His presence when we sin.**

c. John 16:7-8- *"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 go, I will send Him to you. And when He comes, He will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment."* What specifically does this passage tell us about the Spirit?

(1) The Holy Spirit applies the truths of God to His elect to convince and convict our hearts of sin and righteousness and judgment.

Why? Because one of His main purposes is seen in one of His titles: Helper.

- **The Holy Spirit helps us by convicting our hearts of the sin that is in us, the righteousness that is of God, and the judgement that is to come.**
 - **You may have heard this saying before, *"Grace is not sweet if sin is not first bitter."***
 - **So, the Holy Spirit convicts us of our sin, God's standards, and judgment to come. But that is not the end goal. Our failings are made known to us so that our Savior's necessity would be confessed and His grace claimed.**
- **When these realities grip our consciences, they bend our knees before God and turn our hearts to Jesus.**

(2) But Jesus said that the ultimate job of the Holy Spirit was not only to tell the truth about us, but to *"bear witness about me"* ...John 15:26- *"But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness about me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning."*

- **He is to bear witness about Christ in the world and in us so that we can bear witness about Christ in us and in the world.**
- **The Spirit helps us by revealing our sin and our Savior – doing one without the other would be no help.**

(3) The word "Helper" can also be translated "home maker" in the sense of builder-This helps explain why the Christian life is full of challenges.

- **After all, the Spirit is transforming us into a home fit for the Father and Son to live in comfortably!**
- **There is major reconstruction to be done. As C. S. Lewis explains in Mere Christianity, *"Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on: you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts***

abominably and does not seem to make sense. What on earth is He up to? The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of—throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were going to be made into a decent little cottage; but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself.

- (4) So, if there is only one Spirit, then the Spirit the Lord Jesus promised to send to the disciples must be the very same Spirit who indwelt Him.**
- **The Spirit Jesus sent to the church after His ascension is the Spirit who for thirty-three years was present in His life.**
 - **If He indwells us, no deeper intimacy of fellowship with Jesus is possible. And no deeper fellowship with others is possible either. We share one Spirit not only with Christ but with one another! I Cor. 3:16- *“Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you?”***
 - **This is the promise Jesus is giving His disciples. They are “losing” their Teacher (Jesus) only to “gain” Him in a new way**
- d. John 16:12-15- *“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth, for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak, and He will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for He will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that He will take what is mine and declare it to you.”***
- (1) The Spirit is able to do what all teachers wish they could do for their pupils—get inside them and teach them not only from the outside, by providing “revelation,” but from the inside, by giving “illumination.”**
- (2) As our “teacher/helper” he gives us and equips us with gifts- I Cor. 12:7-11- *“To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.”***

The Holy Spirit
December 12, 2021

A. Prayer

B. Review

1. Given how often the Spirit is talked about in Scripture why is He still so mysterious to us?
2. From what we looked at last week how would you describe to Holy Spirit?
 - a. **He is God...the 3rd person of the Godhead.**
 - b. **He convinces and convicts His children of their sins.**
 - c. **He gives life in Christ enabling us to live as God has prescribed in His law.**
3. Looking at more Scripture:
 - a. **Luke 1:35- *"And the angel answered her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore, the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.'*"**
This is one of the more unusual passages concerning the Spirit. What does this passage tell us about the Holy Spirit?
 - (1) Might this passage help at all in understanding this? **Job 33:4- *"The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the almighty gives me life."***
 - **I love these...just like at the beginning where God says, *"In the beginning, God created..."* the person of the Holy Spirit is assumed to exist... and does exist in both of these texts... just like in the rest of the Scripture.**
 - **Also, in the text from Luke, we see that the angel assumes/knows that Mary, this very young woman, knows about the Holy Spirit. And that it is *the power of the most High* as He is often displayed throughout Scripture.**
 - **A lot is often said to couch Mary as a teenager...seeking to define in terms of the 20 and 21st centuries.**
 - **But that term, along with adolescence hadn't even been coined yet...for she was of marrying age...hence a young woman who had been taught by her mother and the women around her like Elizabeth what a godly woman was to act like and think like.**
 - **By telling her this without more explanation the angel also knows that she will accept it just as it is said...and she does...she sees herself as the servant of God to be used anyway God sees fit.**
 - (2) **The Spirit maintains a spirit of deportment towards Mary so that she remains a virgin in the sense of no man has known her until after Jesus is born...but the Spirit will exert His divine creative power to bring about this conception.**
 - **The Spirit's coming upon her and overshadowing her...**
 - **This has allusion to the spirit hovering over the waters at creation...preparing to bring life...in this case preparing for the physical life of the second person of the Godhead.**

- Also, the term “overshadowed” can mean “to cover with a cloud” or as Boaz covered Ruth with the corner of his garment making her his betrothed.
 - Indicating that all that was done was done in a way that rules out the crude idea of mating of the Holy Spirit with Mary. What ever happened was done according to the holiness of God...nothing invasive or sinful.
 - If it does mean this it is focusing on the physical manifestation of God’s power...for this would be the same as the Shekinah cloud that came upon Moses and others within the OT but was even more active in that it indicates a creative/productive quality. For it causes Mary to conceive a child.
 - One more thing with the wording...the way this is worded in the Greek, “... therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.” This does NOT mean that at His birth He became the Son of God...this birth confirms that he is and has been the Son of God. The word “will” looks forward that everyone will recognize His identity that He has had since eternity past.
- Jesus must be conceived in such a way as to NOT inherit his mother’s innate sinfulness...so the Spirit overshadows...superintends... to give a pure life...so that He is call holy...or the Holy One...the Son of God.
 - These words show us that she was passive in the same way that we are when the Spirit comes upon us at salvation...
 - Luke 24:49- “And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”
 - Acts 2:1-4- “When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.”
- (3) As surely as God, through the Holy Spirit, placed the life of Jesus into Mary, He has done the same for us by the Gospel. Christ-in-us is our only, sure, hope of glory Col. 1:27-“To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”
- b. Rom. 8:9-11- “You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.” What does this passage tell us about the relationship between the Father and the Son?
- (1) Co-equality with them...Father and Son.

- (2) That all three persons work in unity in the salvation of a person.
- (3) The Spirit works within us to renew us and to sanctify us making us holy.
- (4) Just as the spirit raised Christ from the dead the Holy spirit gives to His elect eternal life through Jesus Christ.
- c. **Rom. 8:26-27-** *"Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And He who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God."* What do we learn about the spirit from this text?
 - (1) He helps us in our weakness. We all have times of weakness and we don't know what to do.
 - (2) He along with Christ intercedes before the Father.
 - (3) He above all other understands our great need when we are unable to pray... He groans for us before the Father.
- d. **I Cor. 2:9-11-** *"But, as it is written, 'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him'—these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual."* What are some of the things that this passage tells us?
 - (1) Like God He is omniscient... *"...these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God."*
 - (2) One of His functions as God is to help us understand the things freely given by God to us...so we can never say we didn't know...we don't understand.
 - (3) We see again that He is active in that He seeks and He knows and he teaches/instructs.
- e. **Galatians 5:16-25-** *"But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions*

and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.” What specifically does this passage tell us about the Spirit?

- (1) With the Spirit we can step away from those things that gratify the flesh.**
- (2) If we are led by the Spirit we are no longer under the law...that is the curse of the law.**
- (3) Rom. 8:14-17-“For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs— heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.”**
- (4) Because of who we belong to and because of whom indwells us we can and must walk in the Spirit so we bring God glory and Honor.**

4. What does the Bible mean by the phrase/ term “baptized in the Holy Spirit” or “filled with the Holy Spirit”?

a. In the NT there is a distinction between being born in the Spirit...this is the work of the Spirit:

- (1) to regenerate us**
- (2) to change our nature/the disposition of our hearts**
- (3) to make us alive spiritually**
- (4) to baptize us in the Spirit.**

b. John the Baptist told of this wonderful event- Mark 1:8- **“I have baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”**

c. And Jesus said to His disciples just before His ascension, Acts 1: 4-5- **“And while staying with them He ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, He said, “you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”** And this was fulfilled at Pentecost.

d. So we read about the baptism of the Holy Spirit primarily on the Day of Pentecost and similar events in Acts.

(1) The disciples spoken of here were people who were already believers having been already regenerated.

(2) This seems to have been a subsequent work on the believers to empower them for a specific mission or work.

- **In the OT this empowering seems to have been limited to priests and prophets and mediators like Moses.**
- **But in the NT it seems that all of the people of God are being equipped and empowered to carry out the will of God in the proclamation of His Word and doing His will. I Cor. 12:12-13- “For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body— Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.”**

■ **The emphasis here is on the word “all”. All believers now receive this baptism simultaneously with our salvation.**

- Nowhere in the scriptures are believers to be baptized in, with, or by the Spirit or in any sense to seek this baptism as if it was a separate event.
- What about Luke 11:10-13? - *“For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”*
- When the Bible speaks to Spirit baptism, after Pentecost and a couple subsequent events in Acts, it speaks to this as an established fact for all believers from salvation. Eph. 4:5-7- *“There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift.”*
- The Pentecost experience was tied very closely to the great commission. And it showed forth the power of God just like all the miracles. This was an act of God revealing His power at this time to this people for the purpose of expanding the kingdom.
 - Acts 1:8-*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”* Another way to translate this passage is this, “Go into Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the outermost parts of the earth, but before you go, tarry in Jerusalem. After the Holy Spirit comes upon you, then you can go and carry out this mandate.”
 - Acts 2:1-4- *“When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.”*
- Here for the first time, it seems, God’s people were permanently indwelt by the Holy Spirit and the visible Church began to grow.
- This filling of the Spirit yields conviction of sin, conversion and sanctification.
- Our lives are to reflect the light and power of God to the world around us. We have been born again by the Spirit and empowered by Him ...filled by the Spirit...as well to do what God calls us to do.
- There is no indication that this special filling/baptism continues today as a separate event...but we see believers empowered and expected to carry out God’s will by His grace.

5. Another question always comes up when talking about the Holy Spirit. What does it mean to “grieve or quench the Spirit”? Let’s look at
- a. **Eph. 4:25-32-** *“Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil. Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”*
 - b. **I Thess. 5:16-22-** *“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.”*
 - c. **Heb. 10:28-31-** *“Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged /insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know Him who said, ‘Vengeance is mine; I will repay.’ And again, ‘The Lord will judge His people.’ It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”*
 - d. What do these passages tell us that happens when we who are the elect continue to sin? What is this communicating to us when it says “that we grieve the Holy Spirit” when we do these things?
 - (1) It tells us again, as we have seen that the Spirit is a person...a divine person...hence the term “grieved” which points to that personality.
 - (2) Spurgeon makes the point...that it is interesting that God through Paul doesn’t say, *“Do not make the Spirit angry.”* Since most moral men don’t care if they make a man angry...but they often take pause in grieving someone...making some one feel bad because of their actions. “While grieving the Holy Spirit will not, in the child of God, lead to his utter destruction, for no heir of heaven can perish; neither will the Holy Spirit be utterly taken away from him, for the Spirit of God is given to abide with us forever. But the ill-effects are nevertheless most terrible. He lists 4 things that happens when you *“grieve the Holy Spirit”*”:
 - Grieve the Holy Spirit and you will lose, my dear friends, all sense of the Holy Spirit’s presence: he will be as one hidden from you—no beams of comfort, no words of peace, no thoughts of love—there will be what Cowper calls, “an aching void which the world can never fill.
 - Grieve the Holy Spirit, and you will lose all Christian joy; the light shall be taken from you, and you shall stumble in

darkness; those very means of grace which once were such a delight, shall have no music in your ear. Your soul shall be no longer as a watered garden, but as a howling wilderness.

- **Grieve the Spirit of God, and you will lose all power**; if you pray, it will be a very weak prayer—you will not prevail with God. When you read the Scriptures, you shall not be able to lift the latch and force your way into the inner mysteries of truth. When you go up to the house of God, there shall be none of that devout exhilaration, that running without weariness, that walking without fainting. You shall feel yourself like Samson when his hair was lost, weak, captive, and blinded. Let the Holy Spirit depart, and assurance is gone, doubts follow, questionings and suspicions are aroused.
- **Grieve the Spirit of God, and usefulness will cease**: the ministry shall yield no fruit; your Sunday School work shall be barren; your speaking to others and labouring for others souls shall be like sowing the wind."

(3) We must live our lives intentionally seeking not to do the things listed above and below this passage (Eph. 6:30) ...not because we can "hurt" the Spirit, but because we should desire to do the will of Him who sent us as well.

- We shouldn't want to grieve Him and we should want to do everything in the power of the Spirit not to
 - because He *"...sealed for the day of redemption."* This should be more than enough reason to want to PLEASE Him and not Grieve Him.
 - Since this is true, a holy life should follow and when it doesn't then we grieve Him similarly to grieving the ones we love by our bad choices.
 - So he is exhorting us to be heavenly-minded since our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit.
 - We have been given the Spirit by the Son so that we can keep in step with the Spirit so we can enjoy His fellowship. II Cor. 13:14- *"May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ the love of the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all."*
- He cannot stand the presence of sin in His people.
- And while the reality of grief proves the Spirit's personhood in the Godhead divine persons...His grief is obviously not like ours.
 - It is not paralyzing as ours is sometimes.
 - It is always holy...undefiled by sin or any other flaw that often comes with our sorrow and grief.
 - John Calvin says it is a mystery, *"No language can adequately express this solemn truth, that the Holy Spirit rejoices and is glad on our account, when we are obedient to Him in all things, and neither think nor speak anything, but what is pure and holy; and on the other hand, is grieved when we admit anything into our minds and actions that is unworthy of our calling."*

(4) Grieving the Holy Spirit is purposefully doing things that He will then have to then possibly discipline us for.

- (5) Acts 5:3-5 goes along with this- *“But Peter said, ‘Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land? While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to man but to God.’ When Ananias heard these words, he fell down and breathed his last. And great fear came upon all who heard of it.”***
- (6) Obviously, given what things grieve the Spirit then we as believers are purposefully hindering a godly lifestyle by choosing to live like pagans.**
- (7) In contrast, when we live as God directs, He...Father, Son and Holy Spirit is pleased with us.**
- (8) Or we can make amends for grieving the Spirit when we turn from our sin and confessing our sin and He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins.**
- (9) When we sense that distance in our relationship with God, it is wise to ask ourselves if we are engaged in some persistent sin that we are not willing to give up which brings the Spirit grieve causing a felt/known distance in our relationship.**
- e. So how often do we grieve the Holy Spirit? Every time we CHOOSE to sin! The bigger question then is what are we to do about it?**