

Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

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I. Introduction.

II. The Holy Spirit.

A. The Spirit is Jesus' other self. (John 14:16)

B. Jesus promised that He would send the Spirit when He left. (John 16:7)

1. The Christian life is not a do it yourself proposition. (Titus 3:5)
2. Apart from God's Spirit we could not be part of the family of God.
3. Religion that teaches to be right without an outside agent is impossible.

C. We are to continue to walk in the Spirit by faith. (Colossians 2:6)

1. The Christian life is to be lived by the power of the Spirit every day.
2. You cannot simply say "I am dead to sin" without the power of the Spirit. (Romans 6:11, Romans 7)
3. We must rely on the power of the Spirit to conquer sin.

D. Who is the Holy Spirit?

1. He is God. (Acts 5:3-4)
2. He a Person and He enables.

E. We are to be filled by the Spirit. (Ephesians 5:18)

1. This means to be controlled by the Spirit.
2. A person may be filled with Christ, but control may not be given to the Holy Spirit.
3. The filling of the Holy Spirit is to be continual. (Acts 2:4, 4:31)
4. Being filled with the Spirit is an injunction.
5. One comes to understand the will of the Lord through the Holy Spirit.
6. Being filled is having joy and submitting to one another in the fear of the Lord.

7. Without Christ we must admit we can do nothing.

F. The conditions to being filled by the Spirit.

1. Do not hurt/grieve the Holy Spirit: confession. (Ephesians 4:30)

1. Bitterness hurts the Holy Spirit - this is resentment arising from the feeling that one has been wronged. Self-pity is involved.

2. This eats at the person who has it and prevents one from forgiving.

3. The vice of the virtuous - the brother to the Prodigal was eaten by his jealousy. (Luke 15)

4. We must ask for forgiveness from God and man. (1 John 1:9)

2. Do not quench the Holy Spirit: obedience. (1 Thessalonians 5:19)

1. This means to respond to the Spirit when He speaks.

2. The remedy of disobedience is to yield to God. We are to read God's Word and obey it.

3. When we respond to Him, God gives us more to do.

3. Faith.

1. God gives us His will in order that we might respond in faith.

2. Whether you have thought or felt it, God has been at work in you today. We can simply count on it without having to realize it every moment. This is faith. (Philippians 2:13)

G. Results.

1. A new appreciation of Christ. You cannot talk too much about Christ whom the Holy Spirit exalts.

2. Christian character.

3. A powerful witness.

4. Results will most often be gradual. (2 Peter 3:18)

III. Conclusion.

Application questions

1. How would you describe the Holy Spirit? What is our chief command in regards to the Holy Spirit? Explain.

2. Being filled by the Spirit requires confession, obedience and faith - which area challenges you the most? Explain.

3. What about the Holy Spirit has stood out to you most in this message? How can you apply it to your life this week in your relationships or in your personal time with God? List three ways.
