

# The Broadmoor Bulletin

*A Monthly Publication for the Christians at Broadmoor*

*May 2008*

## Do You Know the Holy Spirit?

Do you *really* know the Holy Spirit? As much as the Bible talks about the Holy Spirit, it is a wonder then why so little thought or consideration is given to Him. In our understanding of who God is, we must not forget about the Holy Spirit.

Unfortunately, many people do not think of the Holy Spirit as a Person and therefore their disrespect of Him shows. Many talk about the Holy Spirit as if He equaled a powerful emotion to be experienced. Many define Him as some kind of unexplainable, mysterious energy force of the cosmos. They will speak of Him as an influence or a power of God, but rarely if ever as a Person, one of the three persons that comprise Deity.

The apostle Paul by the Spirit said to his Corinthian brethren: *"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all."* (2 Cor. 13:14, NASB) We should know the Holy Spirit with whom we have fellowship! Taking the time to study the Scriptures will clear up any misunderstandings we have and enrich the relationship we are meant to have with the Holy Spirit as Christians.

### The Holy Spirit is Holy!

The word spirit in the New Testament comes from the Greek word PNEUMA. There are several different uses of the word in Scripture (e.g., wind – John 3:8; breath – 2 Thess. 2:8; unclean spirits – Matt. 10:1). What sets the Holy Spirit apart is that He is **holy**! (John 14:26)

The Holy Spirit is *holy* (from HAGIOS). This means that He is worthy to be revered as an object of awe or veneration, He is set apart and sacred, and that He is pure and sinless (cf. Thayer's Greek Lexicon). Holiness is one of the characteristics of God. To be designated as holy, identifies the Spirit with God Himself! *"And one called out to another and said, 'Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory.'" (Isa. 6:3; cf. Ps. 103:1; 111:9; Isa. 57:15; Matt. 6:9b; Rev. 4:8)*

### The Holy Spirit Has a Spiritual Nature.

Being a Spirit, He is spiritual, not physical. To rightly understand the Holy Spirit, we must view Him differently than a physical man, for He is a *Spirit* as God is (John 14:26; cf. 4:24). His existence is **not** verified by the physical or our emotions! Since the Holy Spirit is a spirit or spiritual, He cannot be perceived by our physical senses (i.e., sight, hearing, smell, touch, taste). The raised Jesus said to His apostles: *"See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; touch Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."* (Luke 24:39). The Holy Spirit exists in an invisible realm, a **non-physical** world (cf. Eph. 6:12).

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## Holy Spirit Baptism

There are some who teach that Holy Spirit baptism is still being performed today. In fact, they teach that a person must be baptized with the Holy Spirit in order to be saved. Their views do not harmonize with what is taught in the New Testament.

### Observe these facts:

#### - A Promise. Not a Command

Holy Spirit baptism was promised to a few (Acts 1:5), never commanded for all. Water baptism, on the other hand, is commanded to all men (Mark 16:16).

#### - Not for Remission of Sins

Holy Spirit baptism was not for the remission of sins (Acts 11:15), but water baptism is (Acts 2:38).

#### - Only One Baptism Today

Both forms of baptism existed at Pentecost (Acts 1:5; 2:14 – A.D. 33) and at Caesarea when Cornelius was converted (Acts 10:47; 11:15,16 – A.D. 41). But when Paul wrote to the Ephesians (A.D. 62) there was only ONE baptism (Eph. 4:4-6) and that was water baptism (Eph. 5:25,26).

We conclude that Holy Spirit baptism was for a special time and purpose. It no longer exists in the world today and those who claim to receive it are either deceived or are purposely teaching false doctrine. Beware and be prepared to teach the truth.

Greg Gwin

## Titles of the Holy Spirit

1. Holy Spirit – Luke 11:13
2. The Spirit – John 1:32 – 34
3. Spirit of God – Matthew 3:13 – 17
4. Spirit of Jesus – Acts 16:6 – 7
5. Spirit of Christ – 1 Peter 1:10 – 14
6. Helper or Comforter – John 14:26
7. Spirit of Truth – John 14:16 – 17
8. Spirit of the Lord – Luke 4:18 – 19, 4:25-26
9. Living Water – John 7:37-39
10. Spirit of Life – Romans 8:2
11. Spirit of Adoption – Romans 8:15 (KJV)
12. Same (one) Spirit – I Corinthians 12:1-4 ; 11; 13
13. The Lord – II Corinthians 3:12-18
14. Guarantee of our Inheritance – Ephesians 1:13-14
15. Spirit of Grace – Hebrews 10:29

Adam Booher

# Do You Know the Holy Spirit?

(Continued from page 1)

**Beware of Human Reasoning in Religion That Defines the Holy Spirit in Physical, Fleshly, or Earthly Ways.** Many mistakenly base the Holy Spirit's presence on their emotions: "It feels so right that it must be the Spirit." Sadly, many validate sinful behaviors this way! Similarly, others determine that the Holy Spirit is communicating to them by the physical sensations they experience (e.g., energetic, shaky, tingling, dizzy, calm, hot/cold, restless, tense, burning, feeling light or heavy, pain, shiver, etc.). This is far too subjective – How is a person to know this is from the Spirit or from a meal they ate!?! Others claim to receive visions from the Spirit, yet once again such experiences stem from the physical such as drug or alcohol use, sleep deprivation, or an intense emotion. Sadly, there are televangelists today that will preach about "supernatural success" defining the Spirit's presence in your life by your success in a career or economic fortune. Finally, there are those who fraudulently make claims of miraculous healings that are unverifiable, lacking in supporting evidence.

**Like in Ancient Times, Many Religious Groups Today Attempt to Bring the Holy Spirit (a Spiritual Being) Down to the Level of Physical Man!** For example, many today claim to have the miraculous gift of speaking in tongues. Yet, not a one of these speak from the Holy Spirit. These occurrences are nothing more than ecstatic utterances – unintelligible speech that is caused by overpowering emotions such as joy, fear, or anger, not by the Holy Spirit. Instead of speaking *actual* languages fluently without study (cf. **Acts 2:4-11**), the claim of speaking in tongues is eerily similar to the ancient practices of the pagans. Just like the pagans, people suppose that by making a lot of noise through their babblings they can get the attention of God!

Another example of this is the people's request for a "Spirit-filled" worship service. Often, what they *really* want is not a worship that follows the Holy Spirit inspired Scriptures, but a worship that physically heightens the senses and makes them "feel good." Thus, many religious groups are more than willing to accommodate if it will bring in the numbers. By majoring in the psychology of "sensation and perception," modern day worship services aim to stimulate the emotions through physical means (e.g., music, chanting, incense, candles, drama plays, dancing, the powers of human persuasion, etc.).

All we know *with certainty* about the Holy Spirit comes from the Scriptures (**2 Tim. 3:16-17; Rom. 10:17**), not from our traditions, superstitions, feelings, or by physical measurements. If we truly want to know the Holy Spirit, we need to learn from His word.

**The Holy Spirit Possess the Qualities and Attributes of a Person.** Every person has life, thoughts, character, the ability to choose and take action, etc. and that is exactly what the Holy Spirit has! For example, the Holy Spirit has a mind (**Rom. 8:27**), knowledge (**1 Cor. 2:11; 14:11**), a will (**1 Cor. 12:11; Acts 16:6-7; 21:11-14**), goodness (**Neh. 9:20; Ps. 143:10**), and the power to love and comfort others (**Rom. 15:30; 5:5; Phil. 2:1**) (**John 14:16-17; Acts 9:31**).

**The Holy Spirit Performed Good Works That Demonstrated That He is a Person.** The Holy Spirit speaks (e.g., **Acts 8:29; 10:19-20; 13:2; 1 Tim. 4:1**). He testifies or

bears witness (**John 15:26; Acts 20:23; Rom. 8:16**). He also teaches, guides, and leads or directs (**John 14:26; 16:13; Acts 16:6-7; Rom. 8:14**).

The Holy Spirit has emotions as a person would and can be offended. The Holy Spirit can be grieved or saddened (**Eph. 4:30; Isa. 63:10**), resisted or opposed (**Acts 7:51**), insulted (**Heb. 10:29**), or even blasphemed (**Matt. 12:31**).

How then should we speak of the Holy Spirit? Clearly, He is **not** an "it," a feeling, thing, impersonal force, or a mere divine influence. Nor is the Holy Spirit just a manifestation of God the Father or the word of God. The Holy Spirit is a **Person** and thus we should always speak of Him as a person. "*But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you*" (**John 14:26; cf. John 15:26; 16:13-14; cf. Rom. 8:16**).

**The Holy Spirit: One of Three of the Divine Nature.**

**The Holy Spirit is God!** "*But Peter said, 'Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit, and to keep back some of the price of the land? While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men, but to God.'*" (**Acts 5:3-4**) He is Eternal (**Heb. 9:14**), all-knowing (**1 Cor. 2:11**), all-powerful (**Job 33:4**), and present in all places at the same time (**Ps. 139:7ff**).

**The Holy Spirit is not God by Himself, but One of Three Persons That Comprise the One True God** (the Godhead or Divine Nature - **Acts 17:29; Rom. 1:20; Col. 2:9**). God has a *unified or compound oneness* to His nature. The Hebrew word ECHAD is often translated "one" to denote a **unified oneness** (**Deut. 6:4; cf. Gen. 2:24**). We also find *plural* nouns and verbs to refer to God; the most common one is the Hebrew word ELOHIYM (**Gen. 1:1; cf. Josh. 24:16**). God at times spoke in the first person *plural* (**Gen. 1:26; 3:22; 11:7**). While all three Persons comprise who God is, each is *distinguishable* from the other, *coexisting simultaneously*. "*And after being baptized, Jesus went up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove, and coming upon Him, and behold, a voice out of the heavens, saying, 'This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased.'*" (**Matt. 3:16-17; cf. Matt. 28:19; Rom. 15:30**). Each person is equally God, yet each is of a different rank by the Divine order. The Father has first rank, then the Son, and then the Holy Spirit (**John 16:13-15**), yet each are *equally* God (**John 6:27; Col. 2:9; Acts 5:3-4**).

**There Are Many Names of the Holy Spirit**

There are many names of the Holy Spirit found in the Scriptures such as: The Spirit of God (This emphasizes His divine nature) (**Rom. 8:9, 14; Phil. 3:3**) or the Spirit of Christ (He comes from the Father through the Son) (**Rom. 8:9**). Therefore, a complete study of the Holy Spirit will require our consideration of every passage where the Spirit is found. *There are over seventeen different names of the Holy Spirit!* (See a partial list on page 1).

**Clearly, Knowing Who the Holy Spirit is, is Essential to Living Life as a Christian!**

"*For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.*" (**Rom. 8:14**). Do you know the Holy Spirit?

Mark Larson

# Questions on the Holy Spirit

Does the Holy Spirit dwell in us always?

**Answer:** The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit dwells in those who are obedient to God's Word, just as God and Christ dwell within the person who is obedient. However, there is more to your question than that answer provides.

It is important to notice who was promised the Holy Spirit in the New Testament, and to what degree the Holy Spirit would dwell in those people who received the promise.

- A. John the Baptist told some in his audience, "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire" (Matthew 3:11). In Acts 2:1-4, this prophecy was fulfilled when the Holy Spirit fell on the Apostles, just as Jesus also prophesied it would in Acts 1:4-8. Therefore, the Apostles were promised and received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- B. Also in Acts 2, another promise concerning the Holy Spirit is made: "Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38). Please notice that these people were promised "the gift of the Holy Spirit." I call your attention to this because the text of this passage and others in Acts (which we will examine in a minute) illustrate that the "gift of the Holy Spirit" and the baptism of the Holy Spirit are not the same thing.

In Acts 1, Jesus promised the baptism of the Holy Spirit only to his apostles. When they received it in Acts 2, they were able to perform miracles, such as speaking in tongues (Acts 2:5-12). Peter promised the "gift of the Holy Spirit" to anyone who repents of his/her sins and is baptized in the name of Jesus Christ (Acts 2:38, quoted above). There is no record of these people performing miracles. That appears to have been something that only the people who were "baptized" with the Holy Spirit could do.

Acts chapter 8 also supports this conclusion because, after Phillip "went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them" (Acts 8:5), they were baptized (8:16), but they did not receive the Holy Spirit (8:17, 18). It took the laying on of the Apostles' hands for someone to receive the Holy Spirit as the Apostles had it.

We also learn from this chapter that the people who received the Holy Spirit from the Apostles were unable to pass it on to others; they were limited to performing miracles. (Phillip received the Holy Spirit from the apostles in Acts 6:5-6; yet, he could not pass it on to the Samaritans [Acts 8:14-18]. Peter & John had to come down to give them the Holy Spirit [Acts 8:14-18]. Simon recognized this and offered money for the power to pass it to others [8:18-19].)

So, these passages show that the "gift of the Holy Spirit," which was promised to those who obeyed Peter's commands in Acts 2:38-39, was different from the baptism of the Holy Spirit that the Apostles received.

The only other recorded instance of a group of people having the Holy Spirit fall on them as it did the Apostles is in Acts chapters 10 and 11. Here, Cornelius and the people in his house received the Holy Spirit just as the Apostles had (10:47). In chapter 11, Peter, recounting the story of Cornelius' conversion, says, "If therefore God gave them the same gift as he gave us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could withstand God?" (11:17). Although he refers to this as a "gift," the passages we have already looked at illustrate that it is not the same "gift" spoken of in Acts 2:38. If it were the same "gift" that was promised to those who repent and are baptized into Christ, then the Samaritans in Acts 8 would have received it upon their conversion. As we have already seen, they did not receive the Holy Spirit as the Apostles had, and as Cornelius and his household did.

John 17 teaches that God the father, God the Son (Christ), and God the spirit (Holy Spirit) dwell in those who belong to God and are faithful. For those people, yes, the Holy Spirit does dwell in them always. However, for those who are not obedient to God's will, the Holy Spirit does not dwell in them. Remember what Acts 2:38 says: to receive the "gift of the Holy Spirit," you must show obedience to God's commandments by fulfilling the requirements of the New Testament law as recorded there and elsewhere throughout the New Testament.

**Michael Mallory**

<http://www.biblesearch.com/answers/holyspirit/relhs1.htm>

What is the work of the Holy Spirit?

**Answer:** The work of the Holy Spirit in the purpose of God is communication. John 14 tells us that Jesus promised his disciples to send them a Comforter (another like unto himself) after he went away. "He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you" (John 14:26). The disciples, later called apostles or those sent in the process of "teaching all nations" (Matt. 28:18-20) had the benefit of the direct guidance of the Holy Spirit in communicating the word of God. The Spirit was the Divine Assistant in the first century during this period of oral communication and the subsequent period of both oral and written communication of the gospel. He was working thru men in communication and moved them to write God's Word for the church in the New Testament.

The Holy Spirit now works through the word of God in revealing, guiding and teaching us. He is instrumental in our lives through the knowledge of divine truth we have learned and internalized. He dwells within us through his mediate, the Word.

**Julian Snell**

<http://www.biblesearch.com/answers/holyspirit/relhs1.htm>

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.

**John 16:13 – 14**

# "LET THE LOWER LIGHTS BE BURNING"

*"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works..." (Matt. 5.16).*

INTRODUCTION: A hymn which encourages us to let our lights shine before me is "Let The Lower Lights Be Burning" (#237 in "Hymns for Worship Revised" and #527 in "Sacred Selections for the Church"). The text was written and the tune (Lower Lights) was composed both by Philip Paul Bliss (1838-1876). A native of Clearfield County, PA, he left home to work on farms and in lumber camps, but later became a music teacher and professional songwriter. Eventually, he joined the evangelistic team of Daniel W. Whittle and Dwight L. Moody, headquartered in Chicago, IL, as a music director for their crusades. Many of his songs were drawn from illustrations that he heard in sermons. This song was suggested by a story which Moody told.

"On a dark, stormy night, when the waves rolled like mountains and not a star was to be seen, a boat rocking and plunging, neared the Cleveland harbor. 'Are you sure this is Cleveland?' asked the captain, seeing only one light from the light-house. 'Quite sure, sir,' replied the pilot. 'Where are the lower lights?' 'Gone out, sir.' 'Can you make the harbor?' 'We must, or perish, sir!' And with a strong hand and a brave heart, the old pilot turned the wheel. But alas, in the darkness he missed the channel, and with a crash upon the rocks the boat was shivered, and many a life lost in a watery grave. Brethren, the Master will take care of the great light-house; let us keep the lower lights burning!"

The song was first published in "The Charm, a Collection of Sunday School Music," which Bliss compiled in 1871 for John Church and Co. of Cincinnati, OH. Bliss and his wife died in a fiery train-wreck near Ashtabula, OH, while returning to Chicago from Pennsylvania where they had been to visit family for the holidays. This hymn has been well-known and much used among churches of Christ and has been found in practically all song-books published by brethren since the 1921 "Great Songs of the Church" edited by E. L. Jorgenson.

The song talks about the importance of letting our lights shine to help others.

I. According to the first stanza, God's mercy is the great light to guide us

"Brightly beams our Father's mercy  
From the lighthouse evermore;  
But to us He gives the keeping  
Of the lights along the shore."

A. It is by the mercy of God that we are saved: Eph. 2.4-8, Tit. 3.5

B. This mercy is pictured as light pouring from a lighthouse, because God is light and we must walk in His light to find salvation and heaven: 1 John 1.5-7

C. But God gives His people the responsibility of reflecting His light so that they can be like the "lower lights" to help people find the right way: Phil. 2.12-16

II. According to the second stanza, sin is the great darkness that requires our lights.

"Dark the night of sin has settled,  
Loud the angry billows roar;  
Eager eyes are watching, longing,  
For the lights along the shore."

A. Throughout the Bible, sin is pictured as darkness and night: Eph. 5.11, 1 Thess. 5.5

B. And as it is with ships sailing along the shore during a storm, the angry billows could represent anything, such as the lusts of the flesh, the doctrines of men, and the desires of this life, which would toss souls to and fro and drown them in destruction and perdition: Eph. 4.14, 1 Tim. 6.9

C. And there may well be souls who are looking for lights to help them cast their anchors both sure and steadfast so that they can find refuge from the storm: Heb. 6.18-20

III. According to the third stanza, being such lights is the great responsibility that we have.

"Trim your feeble lamp, my brother;  
Some poor seaman, tempest tossed,  
Trying now to make the harbor,  
In the darkness may be lost."

A. Trimming a lamp is part of the process of making it ready to do its work, and would represent preparing our lives so that we can be ready for service to the Master, as the wise virgins did: Matt. 25.1-13

B. "Some poor seaman tempest tossed" would refer to all those whose lives are being buffeted by the waves of lust, temptation, and sin while sailing in the darkness of this world: Rom. 3.23, James 1.13-15

C. And if there is not some light there to help guide them to the harbor of safety, they will be lost--forever: Rom. 6.23, Rev. 21.8

CONCLUSION: The chorus reemphasizes the need for us to keep our lamps ready and burning.

"Let the lower lights be burning!  
Send a gleam across the wave!  
Some poor fainting, struggling seaman,  
You may rescue, you may save."

Of course, we realize that the only true spiritual light comes from God's word (Ps. 119.105). But the way that we shine that light for others is to make sure that our lives are good examples of the teaching of God's word (1 Tim. 4.12), and to look for opportunities to teach that word to others (2 Tim. 2.2). Therefore, each child of God must recognize his own personal responsibility to "Let the Lower Lights Be Burning."

**Wayne Walker**

## Times of Service

Sunday Bible Class	9:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	9:55 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

Visit us on the web at <http://www.broadmoorchurch.com>