

The Holy Spirit:

An Introduction

John 16:13



The Holy Spirit

“There is probably no other Bible subject concerning which there is more confusion than of the Holy Spirit and His Work.”

~ Gus Nichols

The Holy Spirit

- It is a controversial subject and yet somehow neglected.
- The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit and His relationship to mankind and their salvation.
- Who is He? What does He do? Is He active today? Is He really God?

The Holy Spirit

- All of these questions are not unique to the Church today.
- The Holy Spirit has been pondered, questioned, and debated for centuries now.
- There seems to be two basic extremes or positions commonly encountered when dealing with the Holy Spirit:

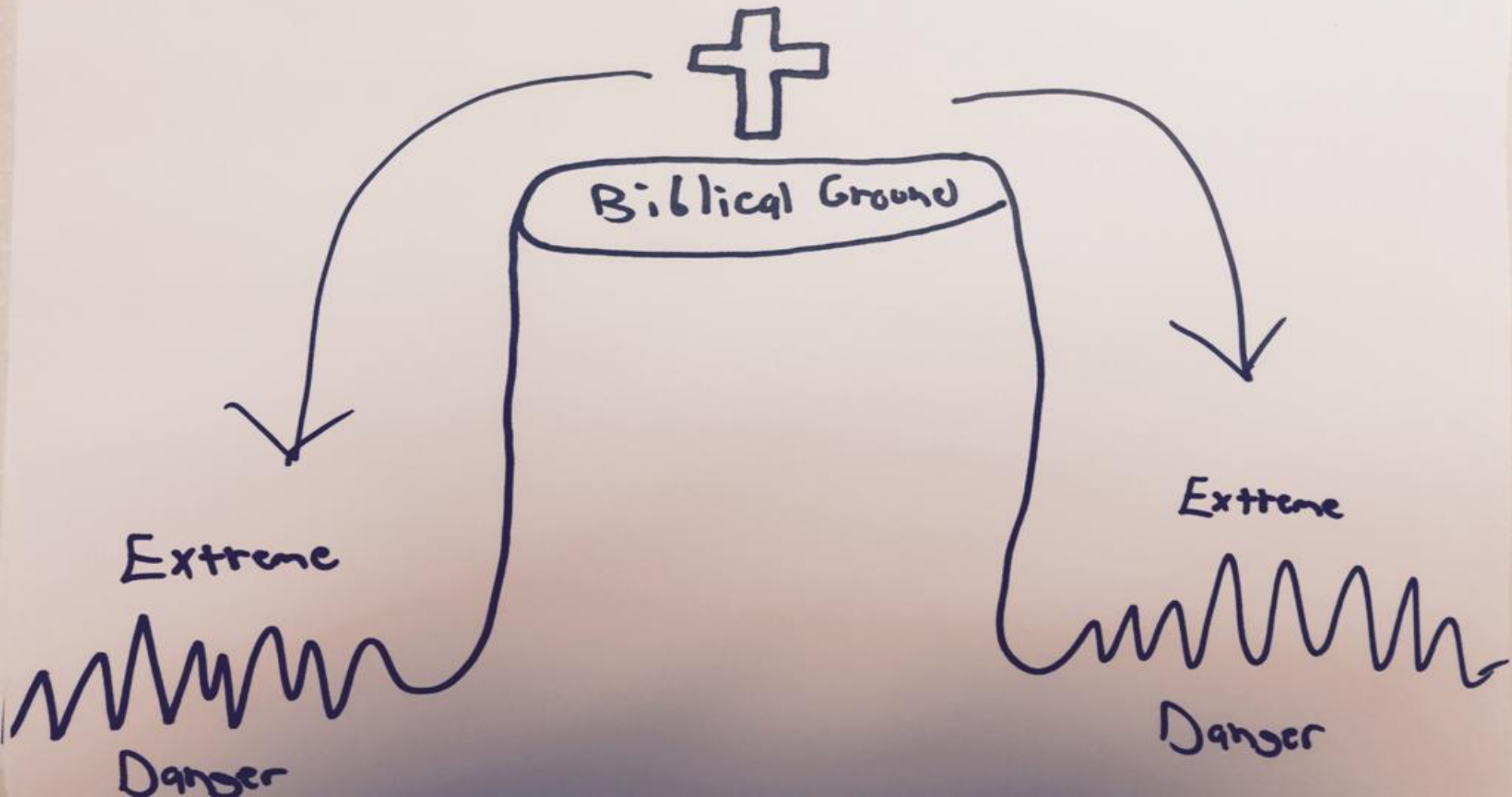
The Holy Spirit

1. The Holy Spirit has been placed in a position of complete and total inactivity since the first century ~ **(Romans 8:16)**
2. The Holy Spirit is just as active today as He was in the first century, allowing people to perform miracles, prophesize, and be directly inspired ~ **(1 Corinthians 13:8-10)**

The Holy Spirit

- The truth is that all cases of extremism should be avoided.
- We must not strive to be **conservatives** or **liberals**, instead we are commanded to be **BIBLICAL** (Revelation 22:18-19).

The Danger of Extremes! (Revelation 22:18-19)



The Holy Spirit

- Our Goal not only in this study this morning but throughout the entire length of our study in this matter is to **get to know the Holy Spirit according to what the Bible teaches.**
- This morning we will examine the Holy Spirit as a **DEFINITE, DIVINE, and DISTINCT** being.

The Holy Spirit

- Once this has been established we can proceed in the coming weeks to examining the Holy Spirit in relation to:

1. Creation

2. Conversion

3. Christianity

The Holy Spirit is Definitive



The Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit is mentioned over **350 times** throughout the Bible.
- When we say that the Holy Spirit is Definite, we are alluding to the traits and qualities to show Him to be real.

The Holy Spirit

- It is sometimes argued that the Holy Spirit is nothing more than a **Attitude of Holiness**.
- Much in the same way that you or I would celebrate the Spirit of Freedom on the 4th of July or the Spirit of the Holidays on Christmas, Thanksgiving etc.

The Holy Spirit

- However this is clearly not what the Bible teaches concerning the Holy Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit does things that only a definite being can do!
- This makes the Holy Spirit, according to the Bible a real and active spiritual being that can:

The Holy Spirit

- Speak or Talk

*Now the Spirit **EXPRESSLY SAYS** that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,*

~ 1 Timothy 4:1

The Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit is capable of testifying

But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify (Serve as Evidence or Proof) of Me.

~ **John 15:26**

The Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit Reveals

*And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it **had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit** that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.*

~ Luke 2:25-26

The Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit Guides and Foretells

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.

~ John 16:13

The Holy Spirit

- Note that the Holy Spirit that will guide the Apostles into all truth is not referred to as **“IT”**
- The Holy Spirit is referred to as **“HE”**
- This demonstrates personality, character, and being.

The Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit Teaches

*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 things that I said to you.*

~ John 14:26

The Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit Leads

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

~ Romans 8:14

The Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit Helps and Intercedes For **YOU** Personally

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.

~ **Romans 8:26**

The Holy Spirit

- **The Holy Spirit is Capable of Thought**

Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were **forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia.** After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but **the Spirit did not permit them.**

~ Acts 16:6-7

The Holy Spirit

- **The Spirit is A Gift To All Who Come to Christ**

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

The Holy Spirit

- This list shows all the things the Holy Spirit Can Do and Does.
- It should be noted that he does not impart any miraculous gifts upon Christians today (**1 Corinthians 13:8-10**) however He was certainly capable of that (**1 Corinthians 12:8,11**)

The Holy Spirit

- There can be no doubt that the Holy Spirit was viewed by Jesus Christ as a literal and definite being.
- The Bible also confirms that the Holy Spirit is not just a good feeling or idea but an actual living, existing, and active entity.

The Holy Spirit is Divine



The Holy Spirit

- As Charles Pugh writes, **“The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person.”**
- The attributes of the Holy Spirit are the same as both God the Father and Jesus Christ the Son.
- If they weren't then the Holy Spirit could not be a part of the Godhead, and Christ would have been wrong about this comforter He promised to His Disciples.

The Holy Spirit

- The Father and Son are Life and so is the Spirit:

*The Spirit of God has made me,
And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.*

~ Job 33:5

The Holy Spirit

Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

~ **John 3:5-6**

The Holy Spirit

- The Father and Son are Love and the Holy Spirit is too:

And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

~ Romans 5:3-5

The Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit is God just as Christ is also God
(John 10:30; Philippians 2:5-11)

Peter Tells Ananias and Saphira that when they lied to the Holy Spirit they lied to God.

The Holy Spirit

But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to **lie to the Holy Spirit** and keep back *part* of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? **You have not lied to men but to God.**”

~ Acts 5:3-4

The Holy Spirit

- Like God the Holy Spirit is Omniscient (All Knowing)

But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

~ 1 Corinthians 2:10-11

The Holy Spirit

- Like God the Holy Spirit is Omnipotent (***All Powerful***)

*And the angel answered and said to her,
“The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the
power of the Highest will overshadow you;
therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be
born will be called the Son of God.*

~ Luke 1:35

The Holy Spirit

- Like God the Holy Spirit is Omnipresent (**Able to be in all places at one time**)

Where can I go from Your Spirit?

Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You *are* there;

If I make my bed in hell, behold, You *are there*. If I take the wings of the morning,

And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, Even there Your hand shall lead me,

And Your right hand shall hold me.

~ **Psalm 139:7-10**

The Holy Spirit is Distinct



The Holy Spirit

- He is as divine as both The Father and The Son (**John 1:1-3,14**).
- Yet He is also uniquely an individual as both the Father and Son.
- It is simply false to say that there is only one person in the Godhead since Jesus affirms that the three are separate.

The Holy Spirit

And **I will** pray **the Father**, and He will give you another **Helper**, that He may abide with you forever— The Helper, the Holy Spirit

~ **John 14:15,26**

The Holy Spirit

- **Three Distinct Individuals:**

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the **Father (1)** and of **the Son (2)** and of **the Holy Spirit (3)**.

~ **Matthew 28:19**

The Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit is Real, He is Living, and He is a Definite, Divine, and Distinct individual member of the Godhead.
- The Holy Spirit plays just as big a role in our Creation, Conversion, and our Christianity as do The Father and The Son Jesus Christ.

The Holy Spirit

- As we embark on this study together our goal and our prayer is that we come to better know the role that the Holy Spirit plays in our lives and our Salvation.
- That each of us will draw closer to God and find a deeper appreciation in His love, care, and plan for each of us.

Come To God This Morning And Find

According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.

1 Peter 1:2

**Comfort in The Father, Salvation in the Son, and
Strength in the Spirit**