

The focus of our study:

- Who the Holy Spirit is and how He interacts with us
- The infilling [or baptism] of the Holy Spirit
- The gifts of the Holy Spirit

1. WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

- He is God, just as the Son and Father are. He's not an "it."
Genesis 1:1 "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."
Genesis 1:26 "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness ..."
- Obviously, not physical image/likeness. Rather, as God consists of three parts (Father, Son and Holy Spirit), He (they) created man in three parts (spirit, soul and body).
 - The **Father's role** is the decision-maker.
Mark 13:32 (NLT) "... no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen ... Only the Father knows."
 - The **Son's role** seems more focused on relationships.
John 1:14 (NLT) "the Word became human and made his home among us."
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2 Peter 1:21 (NRSV) "men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God."
- He never does anything to bring Himself glory. He is not prayed to, nor is prayer ever offered in His name. (John 14:26, 16:14).
Psalm 111:3 (NLT) "**Everything he does reveals his glory and majesty.**"
- Always remember, you are God's servant; He is not yours.
Romans 2:4 "God's kindness leads you toward repentance"

As God, like the Father and Son, the Holy Spirit also is:

Omnipotent (Luke 1:35-37; Romans 15:19)
 Omnipresent (Psalm 139:7)
 Omniscient (1 Corinthians 2:10-11)
 Immutable {Unchangeable} (Malachi 3:6; James 1:16)
 Eternal (Hebrews 9:14)

Point: The Holy Spirit is fully God and serves the purpose and glory of God the Father and Son.

2. THE ROLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 1:2 (NLT) "The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters."

- Twenty-three of the thirty-nine books in the Old Testament have references to the Holy Spirit. There God's Spirit empowered various people like Joseph, Moses, David etc.; all to fulfill a greater purpose.
- **Why did God even take the Hebrews out of Egyptian bondage?**

Exodus 3:12 "I will be with you. And this is your sign that I am the one who has sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God at this very mountain."

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- **It is all about who is receiving the glory, God or man! PLEASE get this!** If you don't, you are very vulnerable to being deceived even today!

Psalms 111:3 (NLT) "Everything he does reveals his glory and majesty ..."

3. THE ROLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- **His role with the Son, Jesus Christ** (Luke 1:35; Matthew 1:20; Luke 4:1; John 3:34)

Luke 4:1-2 "Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil."

Acts 10:38 "God (Holy Spirit) anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him."

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- **His role after Jesus Christ ascended.** He regenerates and indwells a repentant person.

Titus 3:5 (NKJV) "... not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,"

Ezekiel 36:26-27 (NLT) "And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart. And I will put my Spirit in you so that you will follow my decrees and be careful to obey my regulations."

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2 Corinthians 5:17 (TLB) “When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore. A new life has begun!”

- **Please never reduce salvation down to kneeling at an altar, saying a formal prayer, signing a card, etc.** While all those things may happen, they are not what regenerates or changes you from the inside out. Only the Holy Spirit can do that and does so when you decisively choose to pray from your innermost being.

(Ephesians 2:22; 5:25-27; 1 Corinthians 2:13; 1 Corinthians 3:16; Ephesians 4:3; 2 Peter 1:20, 21; 2 Timothy 3:16; 1 Corinthians 2:9-14; Ephesians 1:17; John 16:14-15)

- It’s incredible that He actually continues to fulfill Christ’s purposeful work through us! That is why Jesus commanded the disciples to wait until they were baptized with the Holy Spirit.

4. WHAT DOES “BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT” MEAN?

Acts 1:5 “... for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with [in] the Holy Spirit.”

- **The term “baptism” literally means “to dip”, saturate, submerge, to cleanse, etc.** Actually, while we frequently might use the term to refer to the “infilling”, yet the Bible also refers to baptism into the body of Christ (salvation) (1 Corinthians 12:13), water baptism, baptism of repentance (Mark 1:4), baptism in the Spirit (infilling) (Acts 1:5), or baptism of suffering (Mark 10:38-39; Luke 12:50).

- Speaking in tongues is to the infilling what keys are to an automobile. It’s important at the beginning, but the Holy Spirit is far more than speaking in tongues. So, please don’t reduce the incredible work of the Holy Spirit filling someone down to speaking in tongues.

John 20:22 (NIV) “... he breathed on them and said, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’”

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- Paul compares being filled with the Spirit with drunk with wine as a word picture to help us understand it better. (Ephesians 5:18) The comparative focus is on the control factor -- allowing one of them to control you.

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4. WHAT DOES “BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT” MEAN?

Acts 1:5 “... for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with [in] the Holy Spirit.”

- **The term “baptism” literally means “to dip”, saturate, submerge, to cleanse, etc.** Actually, while we frequently might use the term to refer to the “infilling”, yet the Bible also refers to baptism into the body of Christ (salvation) (1 Corinthians 12:13), water baptism, baptism of repentance (Mark 1:4), baptism in the Spirit (infilling) (Acts 1:5), or baptism of suffering (Mark 10:38-39; Luke 12:50).

- Speaking in tongues is to the infilling what keys are to an automobile. It’s important at the beginning, but the Holy Spirit is far more than speaking in tongues. So, please don’t reduce the incredible work of the Holy Spirit filling someone down to speaking in tongues.

John 20:22 (NIV) “... he breathed on them and said, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’”

This was when they began to enjoy the Holy Spirit’s work within them, just as you do when you receive your salvation.

- If you have not had the Holy Spirit regenerate you, as evidenced by an internal change you are aware of by way of a changed attitude towards God and the Bible, then you need that ASAP!

Romans 8:9 (NLT) “... those who do not have the Spirit of Christ living in them do not belong to him at all.”

- Paul compares being filled with the Spirit with drunk with wine as a word picture to help us understand it better. (Ephesians 5:18) The comparative focus is on the control factor -- allowing one of them to control you.

- Having Him fill you then, is having the same Spirit who:

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| ○ moved on the face of the water | ○ brought the plagues of Egypt |
| ○ empowered Elijah and many prophets | ○ conceived Jesus in Mary |
| ○ empowered Jesus to work miracles | ○ raised Jesus from the dead |

- As you surrender to Him, this same spirit fills you to the point of having semi-control of your decisions.

1 Corinthians 14:32 (Amplified) “For the spirits of the prophets (the speakers in tongues) are under the speaker’s control [and subject to being silenced as may be necessary]”