

Title: The Person of the Holy Spirit

Text: Acts 5:1-4 (Part 1)

Would you open your Bibles, please, to the book of Acts. The book of Acts chapter 5.

We are in a series of messages on the subject: WHAT WE BELIEVE! We discussed, first of all, THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE. Is the Bible the inspired word of God? Then, we looked, secondly, at the deity of Jesus Christ. And I ask you the question: IS JESUS REALLY GOD? Of course He is. But we looked at all those wonderful passages which prove the deity of Jesus Christ.

Now, today, I want to come to THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. In our doctrinal statement we say that we believe in one God..revealed in the Triune God head...existing eternally in three persons..Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. So, today, we are going to look at what the Bible teaches about the PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Acts chapter 5 beginning with Vs 1....(Read Acts 5:1-4)

prayer

I have read Acts chapter 5 to begin our study on the Holy Spirit because this passage is the great text in the Bible to show that the Holy Spirit is not just a mere influence, as some teach. He is not just a force in the world, as some teach. He is not your conscience as some teach. But, he is, in fact, Almighty God.

We read in Vs 3.."But Peter said, Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit." Then we read in the last part of Vs 4..."you have not lied to men, but to God." The Holy Spirit is God.

Now, it shall always be a mystery to us until we get to heaven as to the real person of Almighty God. The Word "God" refers to "being" to "essence.. to "substance." And all three persons of the Trunity are all God in being... in substance...and in essence. It is God the Father...God the Son..and God the Holy Spirit.

And in the Bible, the Holy Spirit is spoken off as being everywhere at once. He is not limited to time and space. He fills the whole universe. And there is no way, says the Psalmist, that a person can flee from His presence. For where man goes the Spirit of God is there. So, we learn from the Bible that the Holy Spirit is God.

Also, we learn from the Bible that the Holy Spirit is a person. He has feelings. Ephesians chapter 4 verse 30 tells us that we can grieve the Holy Spirit of God. And according to the last chapter of the book of 2 Cor. we learn that the Holy Spirit has love. He is a person with all the characteristics of personality. And yet, He has all the attributes of God.

(2) Now, with that in mind I would like to share with you what I believe the Bible teaches about the person of the Holy Spirit.

(1) First of all, the promise of Jesus concerning the permanent abiding of the HOLY SPIRIT in the life of the believer.

Please turn to the Gospel of Joh. The Gospel of John chapter 14. Here we will find the promise of the Holy Spirit as given by Jesus. John chapter 14 ..notice vereses 16 and 17. (READ VS 16-17)

These verses teach that the Spirit dwells in us. "He Shall be in You." There are people, today, who teach that the moment a person receives Jesus, he has not garantee as to whether the Holy Spirit is dwelling in him or not. Dear friends, the Bible clearly teaches that the moment a person receives Jesus by faith he receives the Holy Spirit. So, the Holy Spirit which Jesus gave was for His permanent abiding in the believer.

(2)Now, secondly, the prerequisite for receiving the Holy Spirit is accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. No person will have the Holy Spirit in his or her life, until he first of all, receives Christ as his personal saviour.

Turn Back to John chapter 7. John chapter 7 verse 37..Now, on the last day, the great day of the feast." This was the feast of Tabernacles, which was one of three feast which was emphaised in the nation of Israel that every male 20 years and older had to particiate in...

40 years In the Wilderness

And it was a feast which celebrated the wilderness wanderings.

The situation before us is the last day of that feast. On this last day, according to tradition, The High priest would pour out of the golden vessels of the Temple, water on the ground in a great circumony to the people as a symbol of the pouring out of the water of the rock that Moses strick in the wilderness. On that occasion the Bible says in Vs 37....

(Read John 7:37b-39)

Dear friend

~~/XXXXXXXXXX~~

The prerequeiste for enjoying the ministry of the Holy Spirit is accepting Jessus Christ as Lord and Savior. You must believe on Christ in order to receive the H.S. And then from your life will come forth rivers of living waters...It happens when ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ the H.S. dwells iny your life/ And the H.S. comes to dwell in your life the moment you receive Jesus as Savi

Some people say, "Well, why don't I understand the Bible?" Why cann't I lick the problems in my life?" It may be, my friend, because we have never received Christ to start with. ~~We have never come to receive a personal relationship.~~ We have never accepted Jesus to begin with. For the Bible clearly teaches that the H.S. is given to those who believe.

3 (Now, third. What is the purpose of the Holy Spirit abiding in us, now.

ant For, after all, in the O.T. He did not abide. He came to people. But, then he left them. Such as David or Saul or many others. But, now he dwells permanently in the life of the believer...WHY?...WHAT IS HIS PURPOSE?

I believe we can find the answer in I Coringthians chapter 6....Please turn there....I Corinthians chapter 6....The promise that Jesus gave was for the permanent abiding of the H.S. in the life of the believer. The one prerequisite to that is receiving Jessus Chrsit as your Lord and Saviour. Now, the purpose for this abiding presence of the H.S. is to acknowledge, I believe, the ownership and Lordship of our lives. Let me show you what I means.. I Corinthans chapter 6 and verse 19-20 (Read)

The point of this passage is that your body has become the dwelling place...the Temple...of the H.S of God. Whether you realite that or not, it is true.

And let's be honest here today. If every one of us could be sincere, ~~for once in our lives~~, ^{That maybe True, but} the majority of us would say ... "I have no experience or evidenee that the Holy Spirit dwells within me. You see, we have a hard time realizing the permanent dwelling of the Holy Spirit in our lives. HOW DO WE REALLY KNOW THAT HE IS THERE?"

Well, It is much like electricity. We have never seen it. But, you stick a wet finger into a stocket and you kow know it works.

You say, "Well, I am resting my faith in the Word of God that says it is so." Well, ^{But} so am I. I also see His work. And I see His fruit. And I see what He does in our lives. And how He guides me into the Truth of the Word of God. But, to say that ~~the~~ reality of His person to me is like what I see right out here in you, I cannot say that. ^{So, here to} I accept it by faith. I have never seen ~~him~~ ^{The H.S.} with my physical eyes. I have never touched Him with my physical hands. BUT, oh, how I know He is there and working....WHY?...Because I take it by faith. ^{Faith} ~~And my body, God says, has become the Temple of the Holy Spirit.~~

Now, im talking with some Christians about this, I discover that we often feel that maybe the Holy Spirit has left us. ^{Had that ever happened to you?} People often say, "I don't feel ~~that~~ the Spirit of ~~God~~ ^{God} is in my life anymore." [Dear friends, you cannot ^{lose} ~~lose~~ the Holy Spirit. WHY?...Because He is the seed that remains in us. He is that which is the life of God in us. And He guarantees that we shall live forever. ~~Because~~ ^{We have been bought with a price -} GOD!

You see, God lives in us through the person of the Holy Spirit. And we can never lose the Holy Spirit once we receive Jesus into our lives.

But, it maybe like ^{That} ~~the~~ electric, or, like radio waves that we have never seen. Yet, we still believe...RIGHT?...^{He} ~~It~~ maybe lieing dormant in your life beause of sin in your life. Or, because of the over abundance of "self interest." Or, because you refuse to let Him control you. Or, He is quenched or resisted or grieved.

But, dear friends, He is there. And the Bible teaches us that the reason He is in our life is for the acknowledgement of God's Lordship and ownership ^{of our lives.} you are not your own, for you have been bought with a price - The death of Jesus for your sins

You see

owns

Friends, we are not our own. The Holy Spirit of God dwells in us.

Do you not understand, that this is the key in yeilding to the Spirit of God? The Bible is trying to empress us that God owns us...WHY?...Because the Spirit has come ^{To} dwell within us...Isn't it sad when we fight for the control? Isn't it sad that we struggle to maintain the instrument panel of our lives. We must operate the dails. And God simply tells us that the Spirit^s there and you are not your own. You were brought with a price. So, now glorify Christ in your body. Because God owns you. And the Spirit is the seal.....It is the evidence that God ~~has take over~~ ^{is here}. And the moment you receive Christ as savior, you must make him Lord....And the Bible teaches that no man can call him LORD except the Spirit leds Him. So, it is all a matter of the Spirit working in you. ~~the moment you believe in Christ, the Spirit~~ ^{to} ~~will~~ ^{to} And you trust Christ for eternal Salvation, for eternal life, by my friend, the whole motivation that brought you to that point is the work of the ^{the} Spirit of God

The Spirit of God is doing it all. And he comes now to dwlell in our lives. ~~the Bible~~ ^{WHY?}....So that we will acknowledge God's ownership of us....So, that we ^{will} come to the place and say "That is right. God owns me. What right do I have to myself."

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, says Proverbs, and lean not unto thy own understanding. And in all thy ways acknowledge him. And he shall direct thy paths!!.....

(40)

Now, I would like to come ^{To} the provision of the Holy Spirit in us. WHAT IS IT?.....I would like you to turn to I John chapter 2...I John 2.. And I would like to begin reading at Vs 18.....

(Read I Jöhn 2:18-20, 27-29)

Notice, how beatufully, ~~that~~ John goes from the person of the H.S. to the person of Christ. The anointing is given by Christ. He administers the Spirit of God to us.

Do you remember in Acts chapter 1 verse 5 that it says that John baptized with water, but HE, Christ, shall baptise you with the Holy Spirit.

I Corinthians 12:13 says "by one spirit we are all baptized into one body in Christ."

It is Jesus, himself, who administers the Holy Spirit to us. And the Holy Spirit then abides in us. And he is an anointing....NOW WHY?.....

omit

We have this provision of the Holy Spirit. This anointing of the H.S.

Why? What was it for?....Anointing was always for divine inablement.

Inable^{us} to do something...some task...some work...some ministry. Now, the Bible says that we have an anointing. And the key is found in Vs 27.

"He will teach you all things."

Now, knowing that, I want you to ~~come~~^{learn} with me to ~~ANW~~ I Corinthians chapter 2...I Corinthians chapter 2 and verse 12.....

omit

This provision of the Holy Spirit....~~this~~^{the} anointing of the Spirit... is for divine inablement. Well, what does that involve? I Cor 2:12.....

(Read I Cor 2:12-13)

Why do we have the Holy Spirit? What is He in our lives for?

Answer: to provide us with the inablement to understand the things of God.

You say, "I don't understand the Bible. I don't understand the things of God.".....THAT IS WHY GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPRIT....He is there to teach us, to reveal to us, the things that are freely given to us by God.

By man with God and his...

Now, turn over to the Gospel of JohnJohn chapter 14.....Vs 25...

John 14:25.....(Read) Vs 25-26

The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to teach us all things..and to bring them to our remembrance.

But, now in knowing that, turn over to chapter 16 of John and notice Vs 13...John 16:13 (Read 13-14)

omit

Again the emphases is upon teaching. We have the Holy Spirit to teach us all things, so that we might understand the things of God.

Would you notice, please, that the Holy Spirit is never talking about himself. He glorifies Christ. You will never make ~~the~~ mistake when you glorify Jesus Christ....

I have been in some circles where the Holy Spirit was of such importance that Jesus Christ was in the back ground. But, friends, I say to you that the Bible clearly teaches, that when the Holy Spirit is doing his office work, it is Jesus who is glorified above all. For that is why he is given. To glorify him and to manifest him in our lives. To transform us into the image of Jesus Christ.....Praise God for the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Because God knows and we know how much we need him.

~~the Holy Spirit~~
God -
the

So, He will guide us into all the truth and teach us all things.

(50) ~~Next~~ ~~Next~~ ~~Next~~

Next, I would like to share with you what some have called the POWER OF THE HOLY Spirit. The power of the Holy Spirit.

Turn with me to Acts chapter 1....Acts chapter 1 and look at Vs 8 Acts 1:8....We have learned to far that the promise of the Holy Spirit is given by Jesus. And that he would abide in us permanently. He dwells in us. Some call this the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. There is one requirement to receiving the Holy Spirit and that is that you receive Jesus Christ as Saviour. The one who believe on Jesus receives the Spirit. And the purpose for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is to acknowledge his ownership and Lordship of our lives. We belong to him. And the Holy Spirit in us is provision. He will guide us into all truth. He will teach us all things. He is the anointing which teaches us.....NOW THE POWER..... Acts 1:8

5-11-1984

(Read Acts 1:8)

You will receive power...when?...After the Holy Spirit comes on you... Untill you believe in Christ you ~~don't~~ not have this power. The power comes because the Spirit comes into a person's life. ~~and~~

And what is the power for?.....To be witnesses.....

Have you ever thought that you didn't want to go visting because you didn't have enough power.....Maybe you called it talent or ability....Well, the Bible tells us that that comes from the Holy Spirit. It doesn't matter who we are or how well we talk. It doesn't matter about our backgrounds or our experiences or our talents or abilities. It is the Spirit of God in a person's life. It is the power of the Holy Spirit that enables us to witness

educator

It is not dependent at all on how well we know the four spiritual laws. Or, how many Bible verses you know or do not know.....To be a witness is dependent on the power of the Holy Spirit of God. "You shall receive power after the Holy Spirit has come upon you to be witnesses!!".

Let me show you this in the book of Acts....Turn over to chapter 4 In chapter 4, a prayer meeting was held as a result of the imprisonment of Peter and John...Notice Vs 31.....(Read 31-33)....POWER.....They prayed to speak the word of God boldly. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and the result was great power.....

And that leads me to say this: I believe that the Bible teaches, concerning the filling of the Holy Spirit, is THAT..IT..IS...FOR..POWER.. FOR..WITNESSING.....

I believe that the Bible teaches that we ~~should~~ should be constantly filled with the Holy Spirit. In Ephesian 5:18 is the place where that commandment is found. It says "be not drunk with wine, but be filled with the spirit."

Some folks teach that that means to be continuously filled with the Spirit....Yes, it does.....But, we have ^{then} concluded from that that it means sort of an up and down experience.....And often we have held the expression: "ONE BAPTISM, BUT MANY FILLINGS.".....

Now, ~~maybe~~ maybe it is a relative matter in your mind as to how much you are filled. But, my friends, it is not like a cup of water. It is not as though we have half of the Holy Spirit and now we have three quarters. Or, if we really yield to God we have four fourths.....

That is not the filling of the Holy Spirit. It is not like filling a cup.....For, we have all of the Holy Spirit that we shall ever have. We receive it the moment we receive Christ....THE SPIRIT OF GOD IS IN US. AND HE IS THERE TO DWELL PERMANENTLY.....

But, now, how do we get this power? How do we get filled if we are not, The clue to being filled with the Spirit is in three passages...

Ephesians 5:18....that is one...

Acts 2.....and in Luke chapter 1

In Luke 1:15 it says concerning John the Baptist that he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and he will drink no wine or liquor; and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit."

In Acts chapter 2 concerning the Apostles, ~~that~~ the people who heard them preach said that these men were drink.....But no...they were filled with the Holy Spirit.

And in Ephesians 5:18 it says do not be drink with wine, but be filled with the Holy Spirit.

In all ~~three~~ cases the illustration is being drink with wine.....
THE POINT IS: When someone is drink with wine he is under the control of that wine.....And to be filled with the Holy Spirit is to be under the control of the Holy Spirit of God.

And thus it is not an up and down experience. It can be a constant, every day control. ~~And~~

And I personally believe that there is a condition of "FAITH". Faith to believe that God's Holy Spirit is in me and will control me. A decision to appropriate that control of the Spirit of God, ^{is} just as much a decision ~~to~~ receive Christ into my life. We must believe it. To believe that God wants to control us and that he will. And to make a decision of surrender and yieldness to him whereby I appropriate, by faith, the control and power of the Holy Spirit. It is not related to anything else.....The Spirit is in us and he wants to control us. But, it takes a decision on my part to ~~surrender to that control.~~

And ^{both} how we need that power. Both for christian living and for christian witness. It is the ^{basic principle of christian living, and} essential of the church that we cannot do with out it. Or, we shall fail.

And then finally, I would like to share with you the prospect about the Holy Spirit . This is wonderfull.

Turn over to Romans chapter 8 and verse 11....Romans 8:11....(Read)
The prospect of the Holy Spirit is awaiting the resurrection of the body. I thank God that the Spirit of God dwells in me because it is my

guarantee that the same Holy Spirit that raised up Christ from the dead shall also rise ~~up~~ ^{me up} from the dead. And he shall change our bodies to be fashioned after the body of Jesus. The prospect is the resurrection of the body. Because the Spirit of God is in us. Therefore, this ~~our mortal~~ mortal will one day put on immortality. This corruption will one day ~~be~~ ^{be} incorruptio Never to be destroyed again. ~~And death will be destroyed.~~ Because I have simply made a decision in my life to receive Jesus Christ, ^{and to follow him} And at that moment I receive the Holy Spirit. And he has come to dwell in me permanently. He is abiding there in my life.

Oh, ^{J.W.} True, many times I do not appropriate it. Many times I don't recognize ~~His~~ ^{His} presence or work. Many times I engore and neglect ~~him~~ ^{him} in my life.

But, Oh, beloved, ^{To H.S.} he is there and he ~~can~~ ^{will} never leave. And he is there so that we can ~~ask~~ ^{and} acknowledge the Lordship of God. ^{and} His ownership of us. That he possesses us. That we are not our own but ~~his~~ ^{his are his}.

He is there to teach us...to guide us into all the truth. To make clear the deep things of God.

And he is there to enable us with all the power we need to be witnesses for him.

And thank God ~~He~~ ^{He} is there to guarantee that one day my body will be raised from the dead. And that my resurrected body ~~will~~ ^{will} be changed in a moment of time into the glorious likeness of Jesus Christ.

And all of this is possible because when we receive Christ the Spirit has come to dwell permanently in our lives through faith....

Shall we close in prayer