

Doctrines 101

Lesson 6

Pneumatology

PART I EXPLANATION

Introduction: The Third Person of the Trinity is the Holy Spirit of God. Though He is the Person of the Trinity that there is the most false teaching about, He should be the One with whom we are the most familiar, because He dwells inside the Christian. The spirit of man, the spiritual realm, and the Holy Spirit are three areas about which there is much confusion today. Much religion is practiced claiming to be the work of the Holy Spirit that is utterly blasphemous. It is necessary in the culture of confusion in which we live to have a biblical foundation concerning the Personality, Deity, and Work of the Holy Spirit.

What is meant by His Personality is that the Holy Spirit is a Person of the Trinity and not just an influence. We use the term spirit when referring to the spirit of error or the spirit of antichrist. However, those usages are dealing with the word spirit as an influence and not a distinct and individual personality. Because the Holy Spirit of God does not exalt Himself and always brings attention and glory to Christ He is often overlooked and under appreciated.

The Holy Spirit is not just a distinct Person; He is also one of the Persons in the Trinity, making Him equal with God. He possesses all of the attributes of God, particularly those attributes that are incommunicable to anyone but Deity. For example, the attributes of Omniscience, Omnipotence, and Omnipresence.

The work of the Holy Spirit is manifold. He was involved in the Creation of the universe and has a very distinctive role in the plan of redemption. He is also the primary Person in the Trinity active in the world today. Christ is no longer present upon earth in a bodily form but is seated at the right hand of the Father's who is on His throne in heaven. Christ sent the Spirit of God into the world to empower the saints and complete the work of redemption. The specific works of the Holy Spirit are: regenerating (calling), baptizing (sealing), filling, sanctifying, interceding, enlightening, convicting, comforting, and leading.

It is important to distinguish between the different works of the Holy Spirit and to understand the differences between them. Failure to do so opens the door for many of the cults and heresies regarding the Spirit of God to arise and develop. We must ever be careful with this Person of the Trinity as Christ declared the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit to be the "unpardonable sin". The blasphemy of the Holy Spirit is the attributing the work of the Holy Spirit to a false or demonic spirit. Sadly, much of the work of demons today is attributed to the Holy Spirit of God.

Prior to the day of Pentecost and in the Old Testament, the saints and disciples were regenerated by the Holy Spirit but were not baptized or sealed with the Holy Spirit. After the day of Pentecost, except for a few specific, purposeful exceptions in the book of Acts which we will explore in this lesson, all believers receive or are baptized with the Holy Ghost at conversion. After conversion, the Spirit of God begins the work of sanctification in the life of the believer.

To be filled with the Holy Spirit is likened to being under the control or influence of the Spirit of God, which is expected of all Christians. The key to the Christian life is being filled with the Spirit of God on a daily basis. Failure to do so leads to quenching and grieving the Spirit of God and renders us susceptible to satanic attack and allows the flesh to exert undue influence.

Definitions: *For English use the Webster's 1828 Dictionary and copy all appropriate definitions for each word. For the Greek and Hebrew use a Strong's Concordance and copy the definition. The Strong's number is in parenthesis.*

English: **spirit** -

Grieve -

Quench -

Greek: (4151) **pneuma** *pn̄oo'-mah*

Hebrew: (7307) **ruach** *roo'-akh*

Quotation:

“It is not the work of the Spirit to tell you the meaning of Scripture, and give you the knowledge of divinity, without your own study and labor, but to bless that study, and give you knowledge thereby.” Richard Baxter

“O such a one doth great things, he prays, and hears, and reads, and disputes much; Aye but hath he the Spirit, or no? The greatest difference (that I know) in all the Book of God, between saints and sinners is, that the one hath the Spirit and the other hath not.” Walter Cradock

“God is able to interpret His own Word unto thee. Indeed none can enter into the knowledge thereof but he must be beholden unto His Spirit to unlock the door... He that hath not the right key is as far from entering the house as he that hath none, yea, in some sense further off; for he that hath none will call to him that is within, while the other, trusting to his false key, stands pottering without to little purpose.” William Gurnall

“How is the Spirit quenched? Fire is quenched by pouring on water or by withdrawing fuel; so the Spirit is quenched by living in sin, which is like pouring water on a fire; or by not improving our gifts and graces, which is like withdrawing fuel from the hearth.” Thomas Manton

“As I rode out into the woods for my health, in 1737, having alighted from my horse in a retired place, as my manner commonly has been to walk for divine contemplation and prayer, I had a view, that was for me extraordinary, of the glory of the Son of God as mediator between God and man and His wonderful, great, full, pure and sweet grace and love, and meek and gentle condescension. The grace that appeared so calm and sweet appeared also great above the heavens, the Person of Christ appeared ineffably excellent and an excellency great enough to swallow up all thoughts and conceptions, which continued, as near as I can judge, about an hour, which kept me a greater part of the time in a flood of tears and weeping aloud. I felt an ardency of soul to be what I know not otherwise how to express, emptied and annihilated, to lie in the dust and to be full of Christ alone, to love Him with a holy and a pure love, to trust in Him to live upon Him, to serve Him, and to be perfectly sanctified and made pure with a divine and heavenly purity.” Jonathan Edwards

“The work of the Spirit is always humbling and humiliating. It brings us to the end of self, it reveals sin to us. We want to have the power of the Spirit as we are, and the great experiences, but we shall not have them that way. We must submit entirely to Him and He takes us through those galleries first; and when we feel utterly hopeless, He then, as we are told here, provides this amazing chariot for us which takes us to the very heavens and gives us this glorious experience of the reality of the Son of God, the manifestation of Christ according to His promise, which moves us and grips us to the depths of our being and we are lost in a sense of wonder, love and praise.” Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Confessions (Look up and read these articles)

New Hampshire Baptist Confession of Faith of 1833

Article II The Name, Nature, and Being Of God

London Baptist Confession of Faith of 1689

Chapter 2 Of God and the Holy Trinity - paragraphs 1-3

Spurgeon's Catechism

Questions: 4-6, 28-30

PART II EXPLORATION

Key Questions (*Answer in writing*)

1. Why should we be most familiar with the Third Person in the Trinity?
2. Why is it important to distinguish between the different works of the Holy Spirit today?
3. What are the specific works of the Holy Spirit in the world today?
4. What is the regenerating (calling) of the Holy Ghost?
5. What is the baptism (sealing) of the Holy Ghost?
6. What is the filling of the Holy Ghost?
7. Give three evidences that Ephesians 5 gives of being "*filled with the Spirit.*"
8. What is the key to the Christian life?

9. What does it mean to quench the Spirit? How is it done?

10. What is the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit?

Key Scriptures: (*Look up these verses and fill in the blanks*)

Matthew 3:11 While John was baptizing in water, he predicted that Christ would baptize with the _____ .

John 14:15-18 The Holy Spirit is known as our _____ and He will _____ with us forever because He _____ in you. Jesus also explained that He would _____ to us in the Person of the Holy Spirit.

John 16:7-14 Christ was sending His Spirit into the world to _____ the world of _____ , _____ , and of _____. For the Christian He was coming to _____ you into all _____ .

Acts 1:4-5 The promise of the Father they were to wait for was to be _____ with the _____ on the Day of Pentecost.

Acts 2:16-18 The baptism of the Holy Spirit was not only predicted by Christ but also in the Old Testament prophet _____ .

Acts 2:37-39 The promise to be baptized with the Holy Spirit is called the _____ of the Holy Spirit and the promise was given to _____ , your _____ , even as many as the Lord our God shall _____ .

Acts 4:8 After the Day of Pentecost when Peter was baptized with the Holy Ghost, he is said to be _____ with the Holy Ghost and the result was bold preaching.

Acts 4:31 As the disciples were praying they were again _____ with the Holy Ghost and again the result was bold preaching.

Acts 6:3,5 The primary qualification when selecting deacons was that they be men _____ of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 7:55 As Stephen was preaching, he is said to have been _____ of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 8:12-17 Here a surprising event happened when _____ received the word of God which the Jews would have thought impossible. When the church at Jerusalem received word of this, they sent down Peter and John to verify what was happening. The parenthesis in verse 16 reveals that it was unusual not to receive the Holy Spirit immediately that He had _____

_____ on none of them. This was done as a sign to the apostles that even a Samaritan could be saved. They had already been baptized in water and had not _____

_____ the Holy Ghost which is used synonymously with being baptized with the Holy Ghost.

Acts 10:44-48 Here the Gentiles also are saved from the preaching of Peter and the Holy Ghost _____ on them. The Jews were _____ that on the Gentiles also was poured out the _____ of the Holy Ghost. The visible sign that they had received the Holy Ghost is that they heard them speak with _____. They felt compelled to baptize even a Gentile that had _____ the Holy Ghost.

Acts 11:15-18 Peter was required to defend himself to the Jewish Christians in Jerusalem for even speaking with the Gentiles. His primary argument to the Jews was that the Holy Ghost

_____ on the Gentiles as on us at the _____: referring back to the Day of Pentecost. He links this experience with the promise that Christ had given them that they would be _____ with the Holy Ghost. He called this God giving the Gentiles the same _____ as He had to the Jews that had _____ on Jesus Christ. All this was a sign that even a Gentile could be saved.

Acts 13:2-4 Here Paul and Barnabas were specifically called by the _____ and sent by Him into the ministry.

Acts 15:7-9 The Jewish Christians again had a problem with Gentiles being saved without being circumcised (becoming a proselyte to Judaism) and held the "Jerusalem Council" with the church, the apostles, and elders to finally resolve the issue. Peter here recounts again what happened in the house of Cornelius that God _____ by _____ them the Holy Ghost as He did to the Jews.

Acts 16:6-7 As Paul is on his missionary journey to spread the gospel, they were

_____ of the Holy Ghost to _____.

Acts 18:25-19:7 Here Apollos was a godly man that knew only the _____ of John and hadn't been exposed to the baptism of the Holy Ghost. When Paul followed him into the town of Ephesus he asked the disciples if they had _____ the Holy Ghost since they _____. They responded that they had not even _____ of the Holy Ghost. So he asked them what they were _____ unto then if not with the Holy Ghost. He was trying to find out what significant thing was lacking in their experience that caused God to withhold the Spirit from them as He had with the Samaritans and Gentiles. When they responded that they were baptized with _____ baptism he realized the problem. John had not baptized these men, but apparently Apollos had baptized them improperly in the name of John. So Paul corrected the problem by explaining that John didn't baptize in his own name but in the name of _____. When they heard this, they were

_____ in the _____ of the _____. Again the sign from God validating what they had just done by being re-baptized was verified by the Holy Ghost coming _____ them and the visible sign of speaking in tongues. (The speaking in tongues was necessary for a sign from God because they did not have the New Testament to base their faith upon)

Acts 20:28 The Holy Ghost had _____ them _____.

Romans 8:4-9 The key to the Christian walk is to be filled with the Spirit and walk in the Spirit on a daily basis. Here the _____ of the _____ is

_____ in us who walk not after the _____ but after the

_____. To walk after the Spirit is called being _____ minded instead of _____ minded. Those who have a _____ mind are not saved but are at _____ against God. They that are in the flesh cannot

_____ God. You are in the Spirit if the Spirit of God does _____ in you. If the Spirit doesn't dwell in you then you are _____ of _____.

Romans 8:14-17 Christians are identified as people who are _____ by the Spirit of God. The assurance of our

salvation is when the Spirit _____ with our _____ that we are the children of God.

Romans 8:26-27 The Holy Spirit also helps a Christian to pray by _____ according to the _____ of _____.

I Corinthians 2:10 The spiritual truths of the Bible are _____ to us by the Spirit.

I Corinthians 3:16-17 Christians are the _____ of God because that is where His Spirit now dwells. That is why a Christian should be careful what they do with their body because whoever did _____ the temple of God He promises to _____ because the temple of God is _____.

I Corinthians 12:13 By the Holy Spirit we are _____ into the body of Christ by which we are made to _____ into one Spirit.

Galatians 5:16-18 If we will _____ in the Spirit, we will not fulfill the _____ of the flesh because the Spirit and the flesh are _____ to one another.

Ephesians 1:13-14 After a person has _____ the gospel they are _____ by receiving the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 4:30 As Christians we are warned not to _____ the Holy Spirit of God whereby we are _____ unto the day of redemption.

Ephesians 5:18-21 Christians are commanded to be _____ with the Spirit which is evidenced by three things: _____ to the Lord, _____ to God, and by _____ yourselves to one another in the _____ of God.

I Thessalonians 5:19 Here we are warned not to _____ the Spirit.

Key Chapter(s) (*Read daily and summarize in your own words the meaning of the chapter*):

Acts 2

PART III EXPECTATION

Memory verse: Ephesians 5:18

Personal Definition: (*Write a definition in your own words*)

spirit –

Personal Confession: (*Study the confessions and summarize them in your own words*)

Holy Spirit -

Meditation question: (*be prepared for discussion*)

What is a sin in your life that has grieved or quenched the Holy Spirit?

Extra Credit: What is the difference between the regenerating, baptizing, and filling of the Holy Spirit?