

# The Holy Spirit

— Part 1 —

- A Distinct Being
- Personal Attributes of Deity
- The Work in Man's Redemption

In this lesson, we will study the **“Holy Spirit”** (Part 1) as revealed by the Word of God—not through personal opinion or denominational traditions, but strictly from Scripture. We will consider:

- The Personhood of the Holy Spirit
- And The Role of the Holy Spirit in Redemption

God willing, next week we’ll consider Part 2 of this lesson, which includes

- How the Holy Spirit Operates Today
- And Why the World Cannot Receive the Spirit of Truth

Let’s begin by understanding who the Holy Spirit is...

## I. A Distinct Being

Before we consider His work, we must first establish that the Holy Spirit is not just a mysterious "force" or "influence," but a divine person within the Godhead—just as the Father and the Son are.

The Bible teaches,

### A. There Is One God, Comprised of Three Distinct Beings

...the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

From [1Cor.8:4](#), Paul addresses idolatry and affirms the uniqueness of God.

- **“As concerning therefore, the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but **ONE**.”** ([1Cor.8:4](#))

The Bible is clear—there is only one true God, in contrast to idols or man-made deities. But this ONE God is revealed through three persons.

Now let’s establish the deity of each person in the Godhead.

### B. The Father Is God

Paul begins his letter with praise for God the Father.

- **“Blessed be **the God and Father** of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places **IN Christ**.”** ([Eph.1:3](#))

The Father is called “God,” the source of all spiritual blessings through Jesus.

### C. The Son Is God (Jesus Christ)

Paul describes the mystery of God being revealed in human form.

- **“And without controversy, great is the mystery of godliness: **God** was manifest **in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”** ([1Tim.3:16](#))

Paul clearly declares, the full divine nature of Jesus.

- **“For **IN Him** (that’s **IN Christ**) dwelleth **All the fulness of the Godhead bodily**.”** ([Col.2:9](#))

Jesus is not merely a prophet or a teacher—He is God in bodily form, the second person of the Godhead.

Now we come to the third person of the Godhead—

## D. The Holy Spirit Is God

Peter confronts Ananias, who lied about his offering.

- He said, “Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the **Holy Spirit**, and to keep back part of the price of the land? Whilst it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? Thou hast not lied unto men, but unto **God**.” ([Acts 5:3-4](#))

Peter equates lying to the Holy Spirit, with lying to God.

The Holy Spirit is a divine person—not a force or idea, but God Himself.

Having established that the Holy Spirit is a distinct divine being—equal in nature to the Father and the Son—We now move forward, to see how the Holy Spirit behaves as a person, not an impersonal force.

The Holy Spirit Possesses

## II. Personal Attributes of Deity

Let us consider how the Holy Spirit functions like a person—with Intellect, Emotion, and Will—by observing that He speaks, teaches, searches, bears witness, and can even be grieved.

The Bible teaches that,

### A. God Speaks

During the transfiguration of Jesus,

**The Father Speaks**, ...from heaven:

- “While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a **VOICE** out of the cloud, which **SAID**, ‘This is My beloved Son, IN Whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him.’” ([Matt.17:5](#))

God the Father is a speaking being, making His will known to mankind.

**The Son Speaks:**

Jesus openly teaches about His role as the Light of the world:

- “Then **SPAKE Jesus** again unto them, saying, ‘I am the light of the world: he that followeth Me, shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.’” ([Jn.8:12](#))

Jesus speaks divine truth and calls others to follow Him.

So, the Father speaks, the Son speaks, and...

**The Spirit Speaks:**

Paul warns that the Spirit gives prophetic instruction.

- “Now **The Spirit SPEAKETH** expressly, that in the latter times, some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.” ([1Tim.4:1](#))

The Holy Spirit clearly communicates warnings and teachings for the church.

He speaks with clarity and authority—just like the Father and Son.

Just as each person of the Godhead speaks, also...

## B. God Teaches

Each person of the Godhead is described as one who teaches truth.  
This reinforces the personal nature of the Spirit and His role in revealing the will of God.

### The Father Teaches:

Jesus refers to the prophets, to show that the Father teaches those who come to Him.

- He said, "It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall be all **TAUGHT of God.**'  
Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the **Father**, cometh unto Me." ([Jn.6:45](#))

The Father draws people through teaching.  
No one comes to Christ without first learning from the Father's message.

### The Son Teaches:

During the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus takes the posture of a teacher.

- The Bible says, "He opened His mouth, and **TAUGHT** them, **Saying...**" ([Matt.5:2](#))

Jesus, like the Father, teaches His disciples openly and personally.

### But also, The Holy Spirit Teaches:

Paul contrasts human wisdom with Spirit-taught truth.

- He said, "Which things also we speak, **NOT** in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which **the Holy Spirit TEACHETH**; comparing spiritual things with spiritual." ([1Cor.2:13](#))

The Holy Spirit is not passive—He actively teaches by revealing the spiritual truths of God in inspired words.

### The Holy Spirit Teaches and Reminds:

Jesus comforts His disciples with the promise of the Spirit's help.

- He said, "But **the Comforter, which is the Holy Spirit**, whom the Father will send in My Name, He shall **TEACH** you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." ([Jn.14:26](#))

The Holy Spirit was sent to teach the apostles all truth and remind them of the teachings of Jesus.  
This ensures the New Testament is fully inspired.

In addition to speaking and teaching,

## C. God Searches the Heart

The concept of God "searching" refers to His deep, personal knowledge of the inner life of man—motives, thoughts, and intentions. Each member of the Godhead is involved in this intimate work.

### The Father Searches:

Paul explains how God understands our inner prayers through the Spirit.

- The Bible says, "He that **SEARCHETH** the hearts, knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because He maketh intercession for the saints, according to the **Will of God.**" ([Rom.8:27](#))

The Father knows the hearts of people and works through the Spirit to intercede for us.

### **The Son Searches:**

Jesus addresses the church in Thyatira with a warning.

- He said, "...all the churches shall know that I am He which **SEARCHETH** the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you, according to your works." ([Rev.2:23](#))

Jesus claims full divine authority to search hearts and minds—proving His deity and judgment role.

### **The Spirit Searches:**

Paul continues to explain the deep things of God.

- He said, "But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit: for the **Spirit SEARCHETH** all things, yea, the deep things of God." ([1Cor.2:10](#))

The Spirit of God searches and reveals the deepest truths of God.

This shows divine intelligence and personality—not mere influence.

So far, we've seen that the Holy Spirit speaks, teaches, and searches—just as the Father and Son do.

Let us now consider that,

## **D. God Bears Witness**

The term "witness" involves testifying or confirming truth—something only a conscious, knowing being can do.

### **The Father Bears Witness:**

Jesus appeals to the Father's testimony on His behalf.

- The Bible says, "And the Father Himself, which hath sent Me, hath borne **WITNESS** of Me. Ye have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His shape." ([Jn.5:37](#))

The Father testifies to the identity and authority of the Son.

### **The Son Bears Witness:**

Jesus defends His authority by offering His own divine testimony.

- He said, "I am one that **Bear WITNESS** of Myself, and the Father that sent Me, **Beareth WITNESS** of Me." ([Jn.8:18](#))

Jesus—being divine—bears witness of His own identity, in full unity with the Father.

### **The Spirit Bears Witness:**

The Hebrew writer shows how the Spirit confirms God's new covenant.

- The Bible says, "Whereof the Holy Spirit also is a **WITNESS** to us: for after that He had said before," ([Heb.10:15](#))

The Holy Spirit bears witness, by speaking God's promises and confirming them.

As we move forward, we now consider an often overlooked but deeply personal aspect of the Holy Spirit's divine nature.

## **E. God Can Be Grieved**

Only a personal being with emotions can be grieved.

The Bible affirms that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit can feel grief in response to sin and rebellion.

### **The Father Grieves:**

Before the flood, the Lord's heart is deeply troubled by man's wickedness.

- The Bible says, "And it repented the Lord (YHWH), that He had made man on the earth, and it **GRIEVED** Him at His heart." ([Gen.6:6](#))

God was personally grieved by man's sin—showing emotion and sorrow over rebellion.

### **The Son Grieves:**

Jesus heals on the Sabbath, but is saddened by the people's hard hearts.

- The Bible says, "And when He had looked round about on them with anger, being **GRIEVED** for the hardness of their hearts, He saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other." ([Mk.3:5](#))

Jesus felt both anger and grief because of unbelief.  
His grief was not distant—it was personal.

### **The Spirit Grieves:**

Paul instructs Christians not to offend the Spirit through disobedience.

- He said, "**GRIEVE** Not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." ([Eph.4:30](#))

The Holy Spirit is a person, who can be grieved by sin.  
We are warned not to offend the Spirit, who seals us in salvation.

Now that we have clearly seen the personhood and deity of the Holy Spirit  
—who speaks, teaches, searches, testifies, and grieves  
—let us now explore...

## **III. The Work of the Holy Spirit in Man's Redemption**

Jesus Himself explained that...

### **A. The Spirit Convicts the World of Sin, Righteousness, and Judgment**

From [John 16:7–8](#), Jesus comforts His disciples with the promise of the Spirit after His departure:

- He said, "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter (or Holy Spirit) will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you. And when He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." ([Jn.16:7–8](#))

Jesus states that the Holy Spirit would convict (or reprove) the world in three key areas:

- Sin – exposing man's disobedience
- Righteousness – revealing what is right by God's standard
- Judgment – warning of coming accountability

Let's break each of these down with further scriptural support.

#### **1. The Spirit Convicts the World of Sin**

...by revealing why man is guilty and separated from God.

- "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." ([Rom.3:23](#))

Sin is universal—no one is righteous on their own.

The Spirit reveals this fact plainly in Scripture.

- "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." ([Rom.6:23](#))

Sin's consequence is death—both physical and spiritual.

This sobering truth is made clear by the Spirit's inspired Word.

Peter warns Simon the sorcerer to repent of sinful thoughts and intentions.

- He said, “Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.” ([Acts 8:22](#))

When sin is recognized through the Spirit's Word, the response is repentance and prayer for forgiveness.

Notice some thoughts concerning the,

## 2. Conviction of Righteousness

Righteousness means, being right with God—and the Spirit shows us what that requires.

- The Psalmist said, “My tongue shall speak of Thy Word: for All Thy commandments are righteousness.” ([Psa.119:172](#))

According to Scripture, righteousness is defined by keeping God's commandments.

Jesus ties obedience to love—and promises the Spirit to those who obey:

- He said, “If ye love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive...” ([Jn.14:15–17](#))

The Spirit is only given to those who obey the commands of Christ—those pursuing righteousness.

John explains how righteousness and relationship with God are connected.

- He said, “And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth His Word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we, that we are IN Him.” ([1Jn.2:3–5](#))

Obedience proves our relationship with God and shows true righteousness. The Spirit revealed this standard, through inspired writing.

The Spirit clarifies that righteousness is not a vague feeling—it's an action.

- “Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous. He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning.” ([1Jn.3:7–8](#))

Righteousness is something you do—and by doing it, you are righteous. This is the Holy Spirit's testimony.

Now let's explore some thoughts concerning the,

## 3. Conviction of Judgment

The Holy Spirit reminds mankind that judgment is not an idea—it's an appointed event.

Paul preaches in Athens, declaring the certainty of judgment. He said...

- “And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: Because He hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained; whereof He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him from the dead.” ([Acts 17:30–31](#))

The Spirit, through Paul, warns that judgment is coming—set by God and confirmed by Christ's resurrection.

The Work of the Holy Spirit in Man's Redemption, includes the fact that,

## **B. The Spirit Reveals and Confirms the Word**

In addition to convicting, the Spirit is responsible for revealing and confirming God's message to man. This ensures what we believe, is not speculation—but truth.

Paul explains how the message of God was delivered by the Spirit—not by human wisdom.

The Bible says,

- “But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.

But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit:  
for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.  
For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him?

Even so, the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.  
Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God;  
that we might know the things, that are freely given to us of God.  
Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth,  
but which the Holy Spirit teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.” ([1Cor.2:9-13](#))

God's truths, weren't discovered by man—they were revealed by the Spirit.

The Spirit chose the very words used to convey God's will.  
The apostles taught, using Spirit-given language, not human wisdom.

The Work of the Holy Spirit in Man's Redemption, includes the fact that,

## **C. The Spirit Confirmed the Word with Miraculous Signs**

In the first century, when the Word was not yet written down,  
the Spirit confirmed the truth of what was preached through miracles.

Jesus sends the apostles into the world and promises miraculous signs to confirm their preaching.

- “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.  
He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned...  
And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them,  
and confirming the word with signs following.” ([Mk.16:15-16, 20](#))

The apostles' message was not accepted blindly—it was confirmed by miracles, proving it was from God.

The writer affirms that our salvation was confirmed by divine signs.

The Bible says,

- “How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation;  
which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;  
God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles,  
and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to his own will?” ([Heb.2:3-4](#))

The miraculous age served a purpose—to validate, that what the apostles preached, truly came from God.

On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit is poured out on the apostles.

The Bible says,

- “And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.” ([Acts 2:1](#))

Meaning—The apostles were united in heart and purpose, gathered together in anticipation of the Lord’s promise ([Acts 1:4–5](#)).

- “And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.” ([Acts 2:2](#))

Meaning—A sound, not actual wind, came from heaven. Like a powerful, rushing wind—signaling divine presence. It filled the entire house, showing that this was a full and overwhelming experience.

- “And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.” ([Acts 2:3](#))

Meaning—They saw what looked like divided (or cloven) tongues of fire—a visible sign. These were not literal flames, but something that resembled fire, resting on each person individually, symbolizing the presence, power, and purity of the Holy Spirit.

- “And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

Meaning—Each one was filled (completely empowered and influenced) by the Holy Spirit. They immediately began to speak in real, foreign languages ,they had never learned —as the Spirit gave them the ability to speak (or utterance).

At Pentecost:

The apostles experienced

- **Audible signs** (a rushing sound from heaven),

The apostles experienced

- **Visible signs** (what looked like divided flames of fire resting on each one),

The apostles experienced

- **Verbal signs** (speaking in real languages they had never studied).

This event:

- Marked the beginning of the church ([Acts 2:47](#)),
- Fulfilled Jesus' promise of the Holy Spirit ([Acts 1:5](#); [Jn.14:26](#)),
- Fulfilled John the Baptist’s prophecy, that Jesus would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire ([Matt.3:11](#)),
- Served as a sign to the multi-national crowd gathered in Jerusalem, confirming the apostles were speaking by God’s authority.

The apostles' ability to speak in other languages, grabbed attention and authenticated their message. It also foreshadowed the gospel reaching every nation, just as Jesus commanded (read [Acts 1:8](#); [Mk.16:15](#)).

## IV. Final Thoughts

The Holy Spirit is not a distant force or vague influence.

He is the divine, personal presence of God, actively working in the world and in our hearts (through the Word).

He reveals truth, convicts us of sin, and calls us into obedience.

From the first-century church to this very moment,

His role has always pointed people to Christ and God's plan of redemption.

**If you have a spiritual Need,  
The Lord invites, and we wait to assist...**

**Won't you COME...** [believing \(Heb.11:6\)](#), [repenting \(Lk.13:3\)](#), [confessing \(Acts 8:37\)](#)  
and [Be Baptized INTO Him \(Gal.3:26-27; Mk.16:16; Acts 22:16\)](#)?

**...while Together we stand and sing.**