

## Holy Spirit

Who is Holy Spirit? What is His nature?

First let's talk about who He is not. He is not a vapor, a mist or a ghost. He is not some impersonal power that God makes available to us.

- The Holy Spirit is God!

*Acts 5:3-4 - <sup>3</sup> Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? <sup>4</sup> Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied just to human beings but to God."*

- He is a divine being with a mind, will and emotions.

Mind: The Holy Spirit thinks and knows - *1 Corinthians 2:10 (NIV) <sup>10</sup> these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.*

Will: *1 Corinthians 12:7-11 (NIV)*

*<sup>7</sup> Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. <sup>8</sup> To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, <sup>10</sup> to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues,<sup>[a]</sup> and to still another the interpretation of tongues.<sup>[b]</sup><sup>11</sup> All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as **he determines**.*

Emotions: *Ephesians 4:30 New International Version (NIV)*

*<sup>30</sup> And do not **grieve** the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*

What does Holy Spirit do?

People of faith are split today in their beliefs about what the Spirit does or does not do. Some say that He still does works of miracles, prophecy, healing, etc. Others say He does not. Most say He no longer inspires scripture but I think He still does.

- He is our **helper/ comforter**.

*John 14:26 (AMP)*

*<sup>26</sup> But the <sup>[a]</sup>Helper (Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor—Counselor, Strengthener, Standby), the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and act on My behalf], He will teach you all things. And He will help you remember everything that I have told you.*

- He guards and guarantees our salvation. His presence in us is irreversible.

*Ephesians 1:13 (NIV)*

*<sup>13</sup> And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,*

- He assists us in prayer and He intercedes on our behalf –

*Jude: <sup>17</sup> But, dear friends, remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ foretold. <sup>18</sup> They said to you, “In the last times there will be scoffers who will follow their own ungodly desires.” <sup>19</sup> These are the people who divide you, who follow mere natural instincts and do not have the Spirit.*

*<sup>20</sup> But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and **praying in the Holy Spirit**, <sup>21</sup> keep yourselves in God’s love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.*

*Romans 8:26-27 (NIV)*

*<sup>26</sup> In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. <sup>27</sup> And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God’s people in accordance with the will of God.*

- He brings renewal and revival –

*Titus 3:5 (NIV)*

*<sup>5</sup> he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,*

- He fills us with joy and hope –

*Romans 15:13 (NIV)*

*<sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

- He gives us power over our flesh and produces good fruit in our lives -

*Galatians 5:16-26 (NIV)*

*<sup>16</sup> So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever<sup>[a]</sup> you want. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.*

*<sup>19</sup> The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; <sup>20</sup> idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions <sup>21</sup> and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

*<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup> Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. <sup>26</sup> Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.*

- He gets us drunk -

*Ephesians 5:18 (MSG) Don't drink too much wine. That cheapens your life. Drink the Spirit of God, huge draughts of him.*

The idea here is to be controlled by Him, to be under His influence. You may actually feel drunk, but you are very controlled, not like an alcohol drunk.

- He gives us the ability to understand God at a deeper level.

*1 Corinthians 2:10-11 (NIV)*

*<sup>10</sup> these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit.*

*The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. <sup>11</sup> For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.*

Challenge: Be filled!