

**Lesson1 – A Study of the Holy Spirit  
Who Is the Holy Spirit?**

[www.aubeacon.com](http://www.aubeacon.com)

**Introduction:** What do you think of when you hear about the Holy Spirit?

- A. There is much confusion on this very fundamental Bible subject! Every Christian is expected to know about the Holy Spirit!
  - 1. We must know about Him before we are baptized. **(Acts 2:38; 19:1-5)**
  - 2. The knowledge of the Spirit's indwelling is motivation for us to live for the Lord. **(1 Cor 6:19-20)**
- B. When we study about the Holy Spirit we will learn more about the character of God.
  - 1. We have an essential need to know what God wants of us.
  - 2. The great work of the Holy Spirit is to communicate God's will to us in understandable words.

<sup>ASV</sup> **1 Corinthians 2:13** Which things also we speak, not in words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Spirit teacheth; combining spiritual things with spiritual *words*.

**I. Who is God?**

- A. The Holy Spirit is God.
  - 1. When you lie to the Holy Spirit, you have lied to God. **(Acts 5:3-4)**
  - 2. When you read of passages describing the Triune God, this makes the Holy Spirit an equal with the Father and the Son **(1 Jn 5:7)**
  - 3. These persons or being comprise the one true God.
- B. When we study about the Holy Spirit we will learn about the Triune God or "Trinity".
  - 1. How many passages speak of the "Father, Son and Holy Spirit?" **(Mt 28:18-19; 2 Cor 13:14)**
  - 2. Can you explain what this means? Let us learn more about our God!
- C. But the Holy Spirit is not the Father or the Son. They are separate beings!
  - 1. The Father sent the Holy Spirit upon Jesus at His baptism. **(Mt 3:16-17)**
  - 2. Jesus would later send the Holy Spirit to the apostles. **(Jn 14:26; 15:26)**
  - 3. Let us accept these truths knowing that we cannot fully explain the spiritual nature of God in the words of our limited experience.

**II. The Holy Spirit is a person**

- A. When I speak of a person I am describing one who thinks, feels and has a character. Consider several things that the Holy Spirit does.
  - 1. He speaks. **(1 Tim 4:1)**
  - 2. He can be grieved. **(Eph 4:30)**
  - 3. He can be lied to. **(Acts 5:3-4)**
  - 4. He submits to the Father and the Son. **(14:26; 15:26; 16:13)**
- B. The Holy Spirit is not then a "gas or a liquid or a magnetic field!"
  - 1. Some have denied the Holy Spirit is a person. (Ex. Jehovah's Witnesses)
  - 2. Others have made the Holy Spirit nothing more than a gas that may "fill" an

object! No He is a person with personality!

### ***III. The Holy Spirit has a work***

- A. As Jesus was leaving this world He prepared His disciples for the Spirit's great work. **(Jn 16:7-13)**
  - 1. His great work was delivering the word of God to inspired men once for all time! **(Eph 3:3-5; Jude 3)**
  - 2. These men who revealed God's new message did so without error. **(Jn 14:26; Mt 10:18-20)**
- B. We are the readers of this work and not inspired ourselves!
  - 1. This is God's plan for every man to submit to this perfect word that was delivered. **(Gal 1:6-10)**
  - 2. We now must use this word to "test the spirits" if it is from God. We must appeal to the words of inspired men! **(1 Jn 4:1,6)**
  - 3. When teachers claim the Holy Spirit gives a message apart from the written word, then they are preparing one to go beyond what is written. **(1 Cor 4:6)**
  - 4. When a false teacher can break ones strict following of God's word, then they can lead them anywhere! Consider how many come to be Mormons.
- C. The Holy Spirit continues a work today in helping us to pray. **(Rom 8:26-27)**
  - 1. Here He takes what we are trying to say and deliverers it to the Father on our behalf!
  - 2. What if we do not pray or have wrong motives? **(Jas 4:2-3)**
- D. Is the Holy Spirit working in our lives?
  - 1. It is very possible for us to fight and stop His great work. **(1 Thess 5:19; Rom 8:13-14)**
  - 2. Take this test to see if He is working in your life! **(Gal 5:22-23)**

### ***IV. Things the Holy Spirit does not do***

- A. Bow to meet our selfish requests and interests. **(Jas 4:2-3)**
  - 1. Some view their flesh as the Holy Spirit. Whatever they want must be what God must give them!
  - 2. Others think that whatever they feel in the flesh must be The Holy Spirit speaking to them. "I can feel the spirit present in this place!"
- B. Continue with the signs used to confirm the word in the 1<sup>st</sup> century. **(Mk 16:17-20)**
  - 1. These signs were for a purpose and would come to an end. **(1 Cor 13:8-10)**
  - 2. When the New Testament was delivered then these special gifts ceased! **(Jas 1:25)**
  - 3. We now are in the time where men who claim these things are not from God! **(Zech 13:1-3)**

**Conclusion:** Let us be strong in God's might using the mighty work of the Holy Spirit. **(Eph 6:13, 17)**

- A. Are you being tested in your heart by His word? **(Heb 4:12-13)**
- B. By the Holy Spirit we can see clearly how to serve God and be right with Him!