

# Discussion on the Holy Spirit (Paul, Peter, John)

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## Our Study Outline - Where are we?

- ✓ The Godhead
- ✓ Relationships

The Conspicuousness of the Holy Spirit in the Scriptures

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## Our Study Outline

- ✓ The Holy Spirit and the First Century Church
  - ✓ What Jesus said about the Holy Spirit
  - ✓ What did the Holy Spirit do?
  - ✓ The Holy Spirit and Conversions
- ✓ Miraculous Abilities
  - ✓ The gift of the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit's gifts, and spiritual gifts

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Our Study Outline

Discussion on the Holy Spirit

Paul

- ✓ **Romans 8**
- 1 Corinthians 2, 3, 6, 12, 13, 14
- 2 Corinthians 6
- Galatians 5 (with a reference in Colossians)
- Ephesians 3-6
- 2 Timothy 1

Peter

- 1 Peter 1, 3; 2 Peter 1

John

- 1 John 3, 4, 5

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Our Study Outline

The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

Pentecostalism: Its Roots and Beliefs

The Holy Spirit and the 21st Century Church

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Romans 8

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Romans 7

The latter part of Romans 7 indicates that humans are "caught" in an internal struggle between the spiritual and the carnal (flesh; physical).

Paul conveys the idea that there is a "war" within man between the law of God and the law of sin. The law of sin "is attacking" the law of God.

Paul delights in the law of God in his "inward man." He also calls this law the "law of his mind."

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Romans 7

This "war" within man creates frustration. This is the case because sin is powerful and man's ability to overcome/defeat it is weak.

With the realization that the law of sin has captured him, man understands that he needs to be rescued (i.e., saved). (Rom 7.23-24)

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Romans 8

"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus..." (v1)

Paul said the law of the Spirit of life freed him from the law of sin. (v2)

Those who have their minds focused on the flesh live to satisfy their physical desires. This is to be "carnally minded" and leads to spiritual death. (v5-6)

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Romans 8

Those who are carnally minded are enemies of God. They are not able to be in subjection to the law of God. They cannot please God. (v7)

Believers are not in the flesh if the Spirit of God dwells in them. If they don't have the Spirit of God in them, they do not belong to God. (v9)

If one has the Spirit of God in them, their mortal body will be raised from the dead just as Christ was raised. (v11)

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Romans 8

Those who are led by the Spirit are called sons of God. (v14)

Believers have been given the Spirit of adoption. This is connected to the idea of "being marked" as belonging to God, allowing them to address Him as Father. (v15)

The Spirit bears witness that believers are God's children. By crying "Abba, Father", believers assert their place as a child of God. The Holy Spirit joins in with and confirms that this is, indeed, true. (v15)

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Romans 8

The Spirit helps believers' weaknesses, helps their prayers, and makes intercession for them. (v26)

Divine help is available to believers who understand that the Holy Spirit is advocating for them.

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Paul's response to address the dilemma that he describes in chapter 7 reaches toward the Holy Spirit in chapter 8. How does the Holy Spirit help?

A key word that Paul uses multiple times in this discussion is "mind."

Greek  
 nous - the intellect; phroneo - inclination or purpose

We see the word "mind" in the following passages in Romans. 1:28; 7:23, 25; 8:5, 7, 27; 12:2, 16

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In Romans 1, Paul states that God had given (surrendered) those who rejected Him to an "unapproved" (reprobate) mind (*nous*).

In Romans 7, Paul describes the struggle (war) that takes place in the mind (where man's intellectual abilities are exercised).

Paul says there is a "war" against his mind (*nous*)

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In Romans 8, Paul writes that those who lust after (desire, crave) the things of the flesh are being led by their carnal mind (*phroneo*). This inclination (way of thinking) is against God and cannot be subject to the law of God.

In Romans 12, Paul tells the Roman church not to fashion themselves according to the world, but to be changed by the renewing (renovation) of their mind (*nous*) to agree that God's will is good, pleasing, and complete. (Romans 12:2)

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"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus."  
 Philippians 2.5 (regarding looking out for others' interests)

The Holy Spirit's dwelling in man (Romans 8.9, 11) must be connected with the seat of man's reasoning and thinking ability (his intellect).

This is where the Spirit must reside for this is where all action taken by man originates.

It is important for us to recognize that what controls our minds controls our actions.

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One final thought on Romans 8:

"But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people." - Jeremiah 31.33

These words were spoken by Jeremiah as God declares that He is making a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

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1 Corinthians 2, 3, 6, 12-14

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1 Corinthians 2

Paul's preaching to the Corinthians was not in his own ability (he said he came in weakness and fear) but rather in demonstration of the Holy Spirit and His power. (v3, 4)

The things that God has prepared for those who love Him (v9) were revealed to Paul through the Holy Spirit. (v10)

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1 Corinthians 2

The Spirit investigates (examines) the things in God's mind that are beyond man's ability to comprehend. (v10)

Paul and his companions had received the Spirit to know what God has prepared; no indication that the Corinthian Christians had received this same knowledge directly from the Holy Spirit. Paul and his companions speak by instruction of the Holy Spirit.

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1 Corinthians 3

Paul could not speak to the Corinthians regarding spiritual things because they were carnal. (v3)(reminiscent of Romans 8). He called them "babes in Christ."

Collectively, the Corinthian Christians are called "God's building (v9). Therefore, as the church, they constitute the temple of God in which the Spirit of God dwells. Paul said whoever defiles the temple of God would be destroyed by God. The message from Paul is clear: Do not defile the church by continuing in divisive behavior! (v16-17)

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1 Corinthians 3 reference Ephesians 2:19-22

"Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building being fitted together, grows\* into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit."

\* More on this idea of growing comes later...

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1 Corinthians 6

Paul listed some unrighteous behaviors. (v9-10). These parallel the "works of the flesh" that Paul listed for the Galatian churches and result from being "carnally minded." (Galatians 5:19-21)

The Corinthian Christians were sanctified and justified by the Spirit. (v11)

Their bodies are members of Christ. (v15)

Those who are joined to the Lord are one spirit with Him. (v17)

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1 Corinthians 6

Christians should flee fornication because the Holy Spirit dwells within an individual. Paul says that the Corinthian Christians' bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit. A believer does not belong to himself/herself but to God. (v19)

As the temple of the Holy Spirit, individual believers are not free to do as they wish with their bodies.

Bodies (and spirit) are to be used for glorifying God. (v20)

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1 Corinthians 12

The Spirit gave different gifts to those in the early days of the church. These gifts were given to be profitable to all. (v7) The purpose of these gifts were to help the church grow (mature) in knowledge and understanding.

All are baptized into one body by the Spirit. All drink from one Spirit (i.e., all are united in one body that is saturated with the Spirit.) (v13)

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1 Corinthians 13

The gifts of prophecy, miraculous knowledge, and tongues will cease. (v8) When does this occur? A quick side-trail:

- Recall the purpose of spiritual gifts: to edify (build up), to evangelize (teach), and to establish (provide a foundation).
- Once the foundation is established, the need for these gifts to accomplish that purpose are no longer required.
- The church was "in a growing up" phase while these gifts were in force.

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1 Corinthians 13

- Knowledge, tongues, and prophecies would cease as "childish" parts of the maturing process. Thus, Paul wrote, "when I was a child I spoke as a child, I understood as child, thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things."
- As an infant grows to adulthood, mental maturity takes place. The thinking and behavior of a child gives way to thinking and behavior of an adult. The same was true for the church. [Note: See 1 Cor 3.1-3 and Heb 5.12-6.2]
- So the question now, is... when did the church "grow up"?

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1 Corinthians 13

- Church maturity must coincide with the time that the power that was connected with the baptism of the Holy Spirit (received by apostles) was no longer in force.
- We have already seen that those upon whom the apostles laid their hands could not pass on the miraculous abilities. Because of this, eventually the gifts would disappear.
- When maturity is reached, there is no longer a need for revelation (via miraculous knowledge and actions). All that is needed has been given.
- Thus, when the last person who was given miraculous abilities by the apostles died, the church had reached maturity.
- An estimate? John is said to have lived to ~100 A.D.

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1 Corinthians 13

Some thoughts on maturity:

Maturity is learning to move from carnal, fleshly thinking to spiritual thinking.

In the first century, the church had to "grow up" in this way of thinking and be established on a solid foundation of spiritual thinking. The church had to learn what that meant.

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1 Corinthians 13

Some thoughts on maturity:

While the church, as an institution, has reached maturity, individuals who become Christians must still "grow up" on a personal basis. As such, while the overall institution is mature, it is made up of varying levels of individual maturity. It's important for new (and "not so new") Christians to understand what it means to mature.

- 1 Peter 2.2 - "... as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word that you may grow thereby."

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1 Corinthians 14

The one who prophesies (Thayer: teaches, refutes, reproves, admonishes, comforts by divine counsel) edifies the whole church. (v4)

Paul places the gift of prophecy above that of speaking in tongues. (v5)

It is more important to have a prophecy, a teaching, or revealed knowledge than simply the ability to speak in another language. If no knowledge or doctrine is taught, the language spoken really doesn't matter. The message is more important than the medium! (the "what" is greater than the "how").

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1 Corinthians 14

If everyone in the church spoke in tongues and an unbeliever came in, he would think everyone is crazy. (v23)

If everyone in the church prophesied and an unbeliever came in, he would be able to understand the message, the thoughts of his heart would be revealed, and he would worship God. (v24-25)

In other words, prophecy would convert him, where tongues might only serve to make him question what is being done.

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2 Corinthians 6

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2 Corinthians 6

The Corinthian Christians were identified as the temple of the living God. (v16)

In Ezekiel 37.26-27, the prophecy is made of the valley of dry bones regarding Israel and Judah becoming one nation. God said He will "set My sanctuary in their midst forevermore. My tabernacle shall also be with them..."

Paul references this prophecy in 2 Corinthians 6.16

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Galatians 5

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Galatians 5

In Galatians 4, Paul compares the earthly Jerusalem (the law) with the heavenly Jerusalem (spirit) by comparing the sons of Hagar and Sarah. (v22-29)

The son of Hagar was the offspring of a slave; likened to the Jerusalem of the first century.

The son of Sarah was the offspring of a free person; likened to the Jerusalem above. Isaac was born "according to the Spirit."

Christians are not children of the slave, but children of the free.

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Galatians 5

Believers have been called to freedom (from the law)... however, this freedom shouldn't be used to give in to fleshly (carnal) desires. (v13) [Note: those who put themselves under the law have fallen from grace.]

Serve each other in love. (v13-15). Leading up to making this point, Paul has addressed the issue of division caused by arguments regarding circumcision.

walk (live, behave) in the Spirit. This keeps you from giving in to the lust of the flesh. (v16)

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Galatians 5

The flesh desires what is against the Spirit and vice versa. This puts a Christian in the position of not being able to do the things they wish (i.e., know) to do. (v17). [Note: Recall Romans 7].

If they are led by the Spirit, they are not under the law (specifically, in this passage, with regard to circumcision).

Paul lists the works of the flesh. (v19-21)

Paul lists the fruit of the Spirit (v22-23)

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Galatians 5 - reference Colossians 3:2-17

Colossians 3 is a parallel passage to Galatians 5 (and Romans 8).

Set your mind on things that are above (i.e., spiritual). (v2)

Eliminate the lusts of the flesh. (v5-8)

Have a new mind (like Paul wrote in Romans 12). (v10) This also idea also captures the essence of the concept of "repentance."

Put into practice Spirit-based behavior (i.e., what you've been instructed to set your mind on.) (v12-17)

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# Ephesians 3-6

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Ephesians 3  
The knowledge of the mystery of God that Paul had received was given by the Holy Spirit. (v3, 5)  
Paul prayed that the Holy Spirit would strengthen the Ephesians in their "inner man" (soul, conscience). He also prayed that Christ would dwell in their hearts. (v16-17)

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Ephesians 4  
There is one Spirit. Believers are encouraged to be diligent in maintaining a unity that is demanded by the idea of one Spirit in the church. (v3, 4)  
The Ephesians are to be renewed in the spirit of their mind. (Remember Romans 8)  
Paul lists many carnal behaviors: lying, stealing, corruption, communication, anger, bitterness, wrath, etc.

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Ephesians 4

Do not grieve (distress) the Holy Spirit. (v30) How does a person grieve the Holy Spirit?

- Engaging in carnal thought and behavior is against the Spirit.
- Corrupt (worthless) speech "offends" the Holy Spirit.

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Ephesians 5

The fruit (results) of the Spirit is in all things that are good, righteous, and true. (v9)

Paul told the Ephesians to not be drunk with wine but rather be filled with the Spirit (speaking to each other in singing) (v19)

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Ephesians 6

To fight against principalities and powers, Paul encouraged the Ephesians to use the sword of the Spirit (which is the word of God). (v17)

They should pray in the Spirit as they battle against these powers. (v18)

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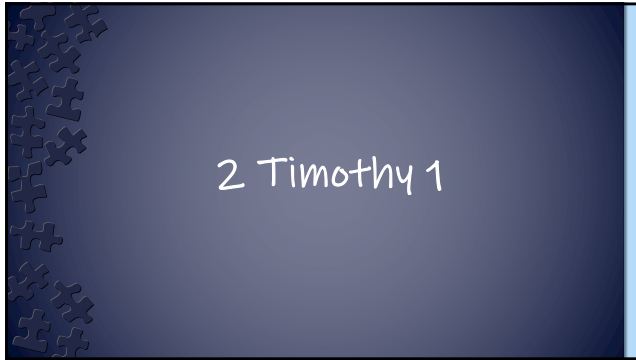
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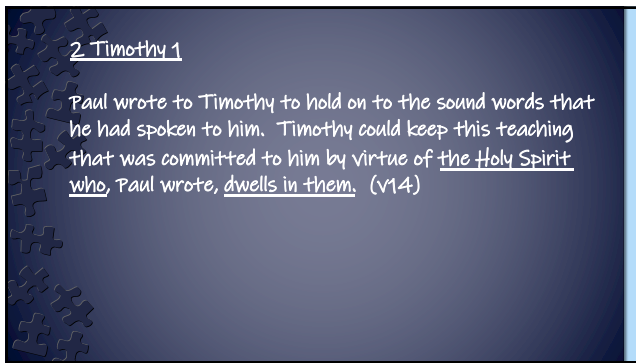
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1 Peter 1  
The Spirit purifies the chosen. (v22)

1 Peter 3  
The Spirit made Christ alive after his death. (v18)

2 Peter 1  
Prophecy of Scripture came from the Holy Spirit through holy men. (v21)

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1 John 3, 5

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1 John 3  
Believers know that God is in them by the Spirit that has been given to them. (v24)

1 John 5  
The Spirit is truth and testifies of Jesus. (v7, 8)

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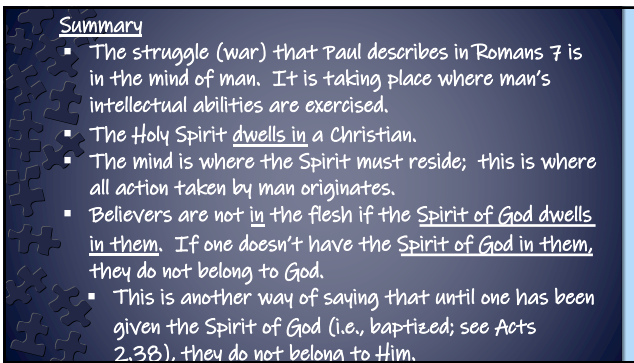
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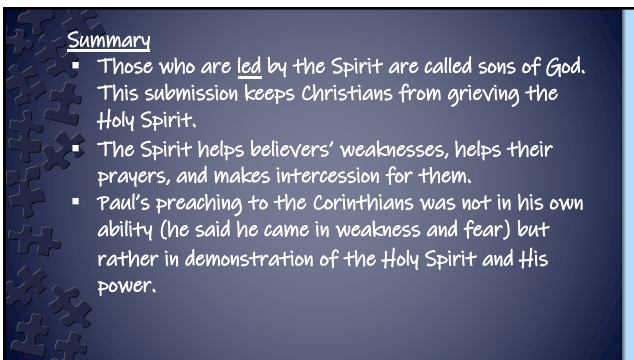
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Summary

- Baptism is into one body by the Spirit. This occurs as a result of what is spoken, which brings one to faith and culminates in baptism. The process that leads to baptism is initiated by the Holy Spirit. [Note: Recall what John the Baptist meant when he said that his audience would be baptized with the Holy Spirit in Matthew 3:11].
- All drink one Spirit (i.e., all baptized believers are united in one body that is saturated with the Spirit).
- Christians (the church) constitute the temple of God. The Spirit of God dwells in this temple.

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Summary

- The Spirit gave different gifts to first-century Christians. These gifts were given to be profitable to all (i.e., to help the church reach maturity).
- With respect to the gift of tongues, the message is more important than the language in which it is spoken.
- The gifts of prophecy, miraculous knowledge, and tongues have ceased. This is true because the power given the apostles by the Holy Spirit is no longer in place. As such, the church has reached "maturity." The "childish things" that were needed to bring the church from infancy to maturity are no longer needed. (Heb 5:12-6:2)

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Summary

- Maturity was reached when knowledge (miraculous), prophecies, and tongues ceased (Paul said this in 1 Corinthians 13). These gifts ceased by the mid 100s A.D., or soon thereafter.
- The Holy Spirit strengthens the inner man (soul, mind).
- The Holy Spirit purifies the chosen.
- Believers know that God is in them by the Spirit that has been given to them. The Holy Spirit is given at baptism (Acts 2:38)

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So, now we come to this...

The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Scripture plainly tells us that the Spirit dwells in Christians.

The difficult question to answer is... How?

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