

Adult Sunday School
STUDY ON HOLY SPIRIT

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LESSON 3

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SIMILIES AND SYMBOLS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- **THE DOVE** – the witness of the Spirit
 - Matt. 10:16 – dove is harmless
 - Matt. 3:16 – Spirit descending like a dove
- **THE DEW** – the refreshment of the Spirit
 - Prov. 19:12 – But his favor is like dew on the grass
 - Ps. 133:3 – It is like the dew of Hermon descending upon the mountains of Zion – for the Lord commanded the blessing – life forevermore.

SIMILIES AND SYMBOLS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- THE OIL – the joy of the Spirit
 - During OT times, olive oil was commonly used for light (Ex.27:20), medicine (Isa. 1:6; Lk. 10:34) and food (Ex.29:2; Lev.2)
 - It was customary for prophets, priests and kings to be publicly anointed and consecrated to their office. (1 Kings 19:16, Ex.40:15, I Sam. 16:12-13)
 - Our Lord Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit at the time of His baptism (Lk. 4:18)
 - The oil of joy (Isa.61:3)
 - The oil of gladness (Ps.45:7; Heb.1:9)

SIMILIES AND SYMBOLS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- **THE CLOUD** – The guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- **The cloudy pillar and pillar of fire in Ex.13:21-22 typifies the Holy Spirit inasmuch as:**
 - It led them “To lead the way”
 - It illuminated them “To give them light”
 - It never left them V 22
 - All three of the above are true in the New Testament Church.

SIMILIES AND SYMBOLS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- SOME SYMBOLS

- The Well. Water is a familiar Bible figure.
- When the water is **STILL** the Word is meant
- When the water is **RUNNING** the Spirit is meant
- In OT passages this running water is described as “living” water
- In John 3:5 we have the Word
- In John 4:14 we have the Spirit
- Whoever desires, let him take the water of life “freely” Rev.22:17
- Every believer has been “made to drink into one Spirit” 1 Cor.12:13
- “The love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us: Rom.5:5

SIMILIES AND SYMBOLS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- MORE SYMBOLS

- The Rivers

- River flowed in Adam's Paradise. This was a literal river.
 - There will be another river in the coming paradise. Here in Rev. 22:1, we believe, it is symbolic of the Holy spirit
 - **In John 7:37-39** *“37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” 39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.*
 - Christ is the reservoir of whom we drink
 - The Spirit of God is the Rivers by which we flow

SIMILIES AND SYMBOLS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- MORE SYMBOLS

- The Wind

- John 3:8 “*The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.*”
 - Acts: 2:1-4 “When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and *one sat upon each of them.* ⁴ *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

SIMILIES AND SYMBOLS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- MORE SYMBOLS

- The Wind ..

- Ezekiel 37:1

- *1 The hand of the Lord came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones.*

- *2 Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry. 3 And He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?”*

- *V 3-14 give more details of the work of the Wind* “v.9 Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.”

SIMILIES AND SYMBOLS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- **MORE SYMBOLS**

As we look at the above three passages:

- **Notice three things about the wind**

- It is heavenly
- It is invisible
- It is powerful

- The Holy Spirit today is invisibly active and sovereignly powerful in the Church as well as in the lives of individual believers.

Holy Spirit / Review 081317

- So far we looked at the following titles:
 - Deity of the Holy Spirit
 - Personality of the Holy Spirit
 - Similes of the Holy Spirit
 - Symbols of the Holy Spirit
- Now we will look at the work of the Holy Spirit

SPIRIT'S WORK THROUGH THE AGES

- Before creation: Gen.1:2 *“The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.”*
- During Old Testament times, and even during our Lord's earthly life, the Spirit came upon certain individuals for the accomplishment of some specific purpose and then He withdrew when that purpose was fulfilled.

SPIRIT'S WORK THROUGH THE AGES

- Spirit came ON certain men – Bezaleel for the work of Tabernacle (Ex. 31:3; 35:31)
“See I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge and in all manner of workmanship”.
- Othniel (Judges 3:10) *“The Spirit of the Lord came upon him, and he judged Israel.”*
- Samson (Judges 13:25; 14:19) *“And the Spirit of the Lord began to move upon him at Mahaneh Dan between Zorah and Eshtanol.”*

SPIRIT'S WORK THROUGH THE AGES

Some times the Spirit came upon even “unregenerate” men to accomplish the plan of God.

- *Balaam And Balaam raised his eyes, and saw Israel encamped according to their tribes; and the Spirit of God came upon him.* Num. 24:2, “”
- King Saul -1 Sam 11:6 “*Then the Spirit of God came upon Saul when he heard this news, and his anger was greatly aroused.*” (When Nahash the Ammonite came against Israel)

SPIRIT'S WORK THROUGH THE AGES

- And the wicked priest Caiphas -John 11:49-52 ***“And one of them Caiphas being high priest that year, said to them, ‘You know nothing at all, nor do you consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the whole nation should perish. Now this he did not say on his own authority; but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation’.”***

SPIRIT'S WORK DURING THE CHURCH AGES

- Holy Spirit abides with us for ever – John 14:16-17 *“And I will pray the Father and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.”*
- His ministry is threefold
- 1) Christward – He will testify of me, John 15:26 *“But when the helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of me.”*

SPIRIT'S WORK DURING THE CHURCH AGES

- He will glorify me Jn. 16:14. *“He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.”*
- God the Son came to represent the Father and to glorify Him.
- God the Holy Spirit came to represent the Son and to glorify Him.

SPIRIT'S WORK DURING THE CHURCH AGES

- 2) Churchward –
 - 1 Corinthians 12:13 – baptized in to one body
“For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free- and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.”
 - Ephesians 2:18-22 – We have access to the Father and are built as a holy temple. *“For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.”*
 - Within a local body
 - Within each individual believers. (We will look at this part of the study in more details.)

SPIRIT'S WORK DURING THE CHURCH AGES

- Spirit guides into all truth – Jn. 16:13
“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”
- Reveals mystery of Christ – Eph 3:5 *“which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets:”*
- Spirit builds the church – Eph 2:22 *“In whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.”*

SPIRIT'S WORK DURING THE CHURCH AGES

- 3) Worldward –
- Convicter of sin to the world, John 16:7-11
“V.7-Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. 8-And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment; 9-of sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10-of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; 11-of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.”

SPIRIT'S WORK DURING THE CHURCH AGES

1. Of sin – Sin of unbelief and hence their rejection and finally crucifying him.
2. Of Righteousness – Man acted unrighteous in nailing the Savior to the cross.
 - God acted righteously in exalting Him to His throne.
 - Hence righteousness is inseparably linked with the risen Christ.
 - Enmity of man is replaced by love, and the believer becomes the righteousness of God in Christ. 2 Cor.5:21
 - ***“For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteous of God in Him.”***

SPIRIT'S WORK DURING THE CHURCH AGES

3. Of Judgment – Notice that it does not read “judgment to come”.

- It is the present condemnation
- The world's prince has been judged at the cross
- When Jesus rose again, Satan was completely doomed and judged.

4. He regenerates (John 3:5)

- ***“Jesus answered, Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.”***

SPIRIT'S WORK DURING THE CHURCH AGES

- Repentant man is born again and receives new, divine, uncreated life by the Spirit of God and the Word of God.
- Water in John 3:5 is not a reference to baptism as many have mistakenly identified. It is the Word of God.
- Ezekiel 36:25-26
- ***“Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will give you new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.”***

SPIRIT'S WORK DURING THE CHURCH AGES

- Peter in 1 Peter 1:22-23,
- Paul in Ephesians 5:26 and
- James in James 1:18, all explain clearly that this is a divine symbol of the Word of God.
- The Spirit of God is the agent and the Word of God is the instrument He uses to cleanse us.

SPIRIT'S WORK DURING THE CHURCH AGES

- 5 He restraints (2 Thessalonians 2:7)
 - *“For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way.”*
- There can be no releasing of the flood tide of lawlessness that will consummate the rise of Antichrist, until the rapture of the Church.
- Revelation 6-19 will not take place until God's present work of saving people out of all the nations is completed.
- The Church, which is Christ's body, is not the subject of divine wrath but of divine grace. But it will go through tribulation in this world for training and discipline, but not through the Great Tribulation.
- The presence of the Holy Spirit in the Church hinders the full development of apostasy and of Satan's program for the world.

SPIRIT'S WORK DURING THE GREAT TRIBULATION

- Holy Spirit during the Great Tribulation period
 - 144,000 Jews and an innumerable number of gentiles will be saved, Revelation 7.
 - For this purpose, the Holy Spirit will work here on earth

SPIRIT'S WORK DURING THE MILLENIUM

- Holy Spirit during the Millennium
 - Israel's national redemption takes place as given in Zechariah 12: 10-13
 - Paul says that “blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles” “So all Israel will be saved. Rom. 11:25, 26
 - A complete fulfillment of Joel 2:28-32. A full out-pouring of the Holy Spirit will take place.

SPIRIT'S WORK IN INDIVIDUAL BELIEVER

- INDWELLING:
 - Jn 14:17 “But the Spirit of Truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He ***dwells with you and will be in you.***”
 - Rom. 8:9 “But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the ***Spirit of God dwells in you.***”
 - 1 Cor. 3:16 “Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that **the Spirit of God dwells in you.**”

SPIRIT'S WORK IN INDIVIDUAL BELIEVER

- FILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
 - **EPH 5:18** “And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but ***be filled with the Spirit,*** “
 - **Acts 4:31** “And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and ***they were all filled with Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.***”

SPIRIT'S WORK IN INDIVIDUAL BELIEVER

- EMPOWERS FOR SERVICE
 - Acts 1:8 “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and ***you shall be witnesses to Me*** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”
- ASSURANCE OF SALVATION
 - Rom. 8:16 “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that ***we are children of God.***”
 - 1 Jn. 3:24 “... *And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.*”

SPIRIT'S WORK IN INDIVIDUAL BELIEVER

- AS A TEACHER

- Lk. 12:12 “For the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say.”
- Jn. 14:26 “But the helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, ***He will teach you all things***, and bring you to remembrance all things that I said to you.”
- 1 Cor. 2:13 “These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches ***but which the Holy Spirit teaches***, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.:

SPIRIT'S WORK IN INDIVIDUAL BELIEVER

- CONTROLS THE MOVEMENTS OF A BELIEVER:
 - Acts 10:19,20 “While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him, arise therefore, ***go down and go with them***, doubting nothing; for I have sent them.”

SPIRIT'S WORK IN INDIVIDUAL BELIEVER

- CALLS FOR MISSION
 - **Acts 13:2** “As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, *the Holy Spirit said*, “Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul *for the work to which I have called them.*”
- CHOOSES THE FIELD OF OPERATION
 - **Acts 16:6** “Now they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia.”

SPIRIT'S WORK IN INDIVIDUAL BELIEVER

- ORDAINS ELDERS/OVERSEERS
 - **Acts 20:28** “Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which ***the Holy Spirit has made you overseers***, to ***Shepherd*** the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.”
- HELPS IN OUR PRAYER
 - **Rom. 8:26** “Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weakness. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but ***the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us.....***”

SPIRIT'S WORK IN INDIVIDUAL BELIEVER

- **INSTRUCTED: “NOT TO”**
 - **REBEL AGAINST:** Is.63:10 “But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit..... “
 - **SIN AGAINST:** Mat. 12:31 “Therefore I say to you, every *sin and blasphemy* will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy *against the Spirit will not be forgiven men.*”
 - **LIE TO** Acts 5:3 “But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart *to lie to the Holy Spirit* “
 - **GRIEVE** Eph 4:30 “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed ...”

THE END