

The Spirit of God

Romans 8:14-16 -- 06/21/2015

NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP, Johns Island, SC

<http://www.NewLifeFellowship.us>

Today's Text: Romans 8:14-16

¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when He adopted you as His own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children.

We've been studying step by step through the Book of Romans the wonderful work of God's Salvation of dead-in-sin sinners who are justly under God's Holy Wrathful Judgment. We've studying about God's Salvation, His Righteousness, our Reconciliation to God through the Grace of God displayed in Christ at the Cross. For those of us who are IN CHRIST and in whom Christ lives ... we who are truly born again ... are Justified, our sins all forgiven: past, present, and future ... all paid for all the accounts are settled, balanced and reconciled. All of the Legal and Accounting Requirements have been taken care of by God the Father through His Son Jesus Christ when God fully punished Jesus Christ, poured out His Wrath of Jesus Christ on the Cross ... thus through the Crucifixion, Death, Burial and Resurrection our Sin Problem has been taken care of. We can, now, have an eternal relationship with God, fellowship with God forever.

Last week we just barely started to talk about the real transaction that takes place the moment we've Repented of our sin and have Trusted in Christ Jesus for our Salvation, making Him our LORD, King, GOD, and Savior ... at that moment God's Spirit comes into our lives and takes up residence, forever, never to leave us, never ever.

In Romans 8:14-16, the Apostle Paul, under the inspiration of God's Holy Spirit, is stating a FACT of LIFE for the Christian. For the person who is already saved, already Born Again, that person is being LED by the Spirit of God → as Proof he/she is a child of God. FACT, if a person is Born Again, he/she is Adopted into God's Eternal Family ... in which God the Father, becomes our ABBA! Father ... our spirit cries out to God ... "ABBA FATHER" DADDY FATHER - a very Close Term of Endearment by a very small child. God's Spirit living within our hearts, in union with God via His Spirit ... He confirms to us, affirms to us, re-affirms to us that we are His children. Individually and corporately. The child of God need never doubt his/her inheritance of the reality of being a child of the Living God.

But Paul, in the Book of Romans does not get very deep about Who the Holy Spirit is. He does touch on Him more in other Epistles, but not some much in the book of Romans.

In the Bible He is called:

God's Spirit, The Spirit of God, The Holy Spirit, The Spirit of Holiness, The Spirit of the Father, The Spirit of Christ (The Spirit of the Messiah), The Spirit of Truth, The Spirit of the LORD (The Spirit of Yahweh / YHVH), The Spirit of LIFE, The Spirit of Glory, Eternal Spirit, The Comforter/Counselor/Advocate (Paraclete – one who comes along side to help)

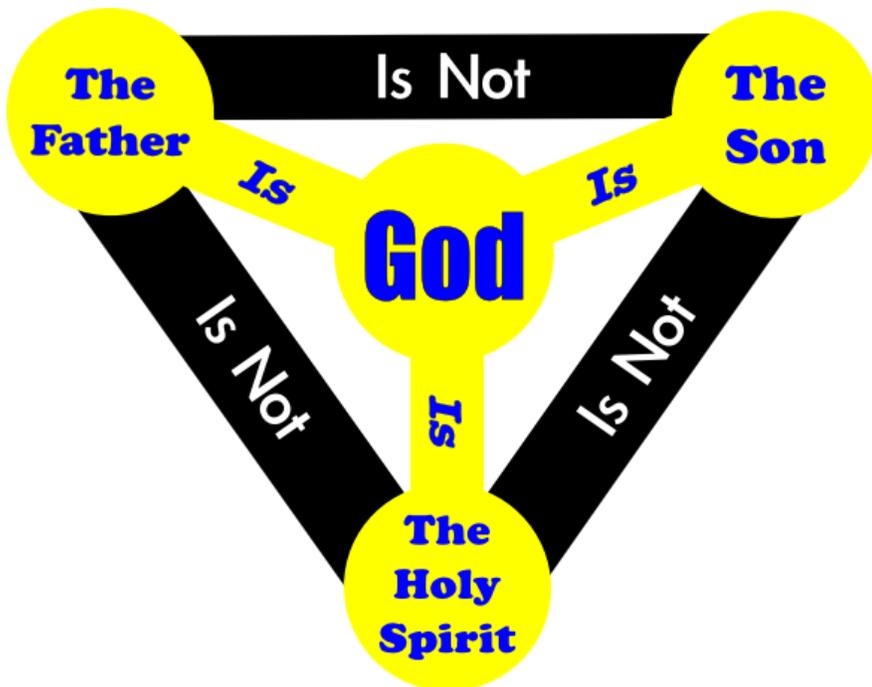
(go to <http://www.biblestudytools.com/concordances/torreys-topical-textbook/titles-and-names-of-the-holy-spirit.html> for more)

He is Symbolized by Water, Oil (in particular: Olive Oil), Light (such as from the Menorah in the Temple), and Fire

Remember God's Spirit, the Holy Spirit is a **"HE"** -- **NOT** an **"it"**

We have been presented with God, God the Father, The Son of God or God the Son ... the Word of God who is God in the flesh, Jesus Christ the LORD ... and now we are focused on the Holy Spirit of God, God the Holy Spirit. Introducing the Biblical Concept of the Trinity ... or the Tri-Unity of God.

It is best illustrated in this Picture ... remember this is just an pictorial illustration of this, sometimes, hard to understand concept of the reality of the very Being of God, Himself...



God the Father is God and He is Worthy to be worshipped as God, and should be worshipped as God.

Jesus Christ is called the Word of God, and He is worshipped as God, and should be worshipped as God.

The Holy Spirit is God ... and He is Worthy to be worshipped as God, and should be worshipped as God. Although, we do not have one example of anyone in Holy Scripture worshipping the Holy Spirit.

Remember → NOT 3 Gods, but 3 Divine Persons of the **ONE** Triune God, the Being of God – He is: The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit ... and it's very hard to argue with Jesus Christ who mentioned this **mystery** in the actual passage of the Great Commission in **Matthew 28:18-20**:

Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the NAME of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Notice that is ONE NAME ... that is of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit ... ONE NAME ... Pointing to the Divine Covenant Name of God, Yahweh, or some say Jehovah or Yehovah or Yahveh ... the One who is the Great I AM ... I AM that I AM or I AM who I AM ... the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. ONE NAME → One Being , yet we see Three Distinct Persons ... Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ Himself gave us this Concept of What and Who God is right here...

In the Bible, God is **never called** “THEY” or “THEM” by any human, angel or demon. No intelligent creature that can speak (a creation of God) ever calls God a “they” or a “them”. God is always called

HE or Him if a personal pronoun (or the equivalent) is used by any human, angel, or demon. When God is address as God the Father, the Son of God, the Spirit of God, He is address in that way per each person of the Trinity, He is mentioned any other way.

We can **never** find anyone anywhere, recorded in all of the books of the Bible say, “God The Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, → **They** are Worthy to be Praised” or something like that. Yet, sometimes we will hear folks say this from the pulpit or in conversations when humans discuss this concept of who and what God is, **today**. Yes, God is Triune ... that is **WHAT** He is. **His Being** is this way, as He has revealed Himself consistently throughout the Bible, from Genesis through the last book of the Bible, the book of Revelation. **FACT: One God, 3 Persons**, Distinct, **but not** Separate. ONE BEING ... ONE GOD ... THREE PERSONS WITHIN HIS BEING ... **HE IS TRINITY**

When we are Saved by Jesus Christ, we are Born Again ... Born of the Spirit ...

We are born from above, born into this New LIFE By the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Adoption and we are placed into God’s Eternal Family and new born babes in Christ.

God’ Spirit comes into our heart and life the moment we are born again.

He applies everything Christ did for us, upon the Cross ... the Purchase Salvation ... is applied to us, via God’s Holy Spirit. He comes into us and we are Born Again. He, in essence is our LIFE... the LIFE of Christ is the Holy Spirit living within us. He is the Gift of Salvation, He is the Deposit of Eternal LIFE in us, forever ...

God’s Spirit did not come into our lives **until** we Repented of our sins and Believed in Christ for our salvation (Ephesians 1:13-14) → we heard the Gospel of our Salvation, we Believed, and the Holy Spirit came into our lives and sealed unto the day of redemption (Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30)

¹³ In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory. (1:13-14)

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed unto the day of redemption. (4:30)

God’s Holy Spirit – externally Convicted us of our sin and our Need for Jesus Christ BEFORE we came to Christ – He is the One who brings us to Christ via The Gospel of Christ:

John 14:16-18 (Jesus said to His Disciples:)

¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever - ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.**

So, before Salvation, a lost sinner is **NOT** in Christ, and the Holy Spirit is NOT in him/her. That lost sinner may have God’s Holy Spirit “with” him/her, on the outside ... putting pressure on him/her to Repent and Believe in Christ ... on the outside of his/her being/life.

It isn’t until that lost sinner repents and believe in Christ and becomes Born Again that God’s Holy Spirit comes INTO the heart and life and that person becomes a New Creation in Christ Jesus.

So, in that Before Stage, the “WITH” stage of the Holy Spirit in relationship to the lost sinner ... that is when God’s Spirit is attempting to help sinners to come to the place of Repentance in regard to sin, and in regard to who God is and who Jesus Christ is ... and the convicting power of the Holy Spirit seeks to lead lost sinner to Repentance and to Trust in Christ as Savior and LORD. We see this in

John 16:8-11

⁸ And when He [The Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth] 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 [i.e. Satan] is judged (i.e.: has been judged already).

God, the Holy Spirit, wants the lost sinner to come to faith in Christ. He uses God's Holy Word, and empowers it, gives understanding to it for the sinner ... so that the sinner understands that he/she is a sinner in need of a Savior. God's Spirit seeks to open the heart and mind of the sinner to the truth of God's Coming Judgment, that the sinner, is indeed a sinner and an object of God's Holy Wrath and Judgment, just like Satan is. The Spirit of Truth, the Holy Spirit seeks to help the sinner see the Jesus Christ is really real, and that He did come to Save lost sinners and that God is Righteous and Holy and will Judge sinners unless they Repent and Trust in Christ for their salvation (remember the sinner on the cross next to Jesus who asked Jesus to remember him when He comes into His Kingdom). So, the key to the Holy Spirit's work on the sinner, externally, is to Convince (Convict) the sinner of his/her sinfulness before a Holy and Righteous God, that Jesus Christ did die on the cross for our sins, was buried, was raised from the dead and did Ascend into Heaven and is with God the Father in heaven right now. The reality of Satan is also revealed by the Holy Spirit to the sinner, because, just as Satan is Judged already, so are sinners, but sinful humans can be rescued by Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit uses the Law of God (the 10 Commandments) to reveal God's Holiness and Righteousness and the sinner's sinfulness ... the Holy Spirit will use the Law of God to lead the sinner to the foot of the blood stained Cross of Christ ... Repentance and Trust in Christ. AMEN !!!

That is the Holy Spirit's Work on the Sinner Prior to Salvation ... He is OUTSIDE of the Body of the Sinner, outside of the Heart of the Sinner, outside of the soul and life of the sinner. He is "WITH" the Sinner, walking alongside the sinner seeking to help the sinner toward the Savior. **Jesus said, "Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world (i.e. Satan) will be cast out. And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all peoples unto Myself" ... John 12:31-32**

God's Holy Spirit, seeks to Lift Up Jesus Christ, to Glorify Jesus Christ, to Magnify Jesus Christ, through His followers/disciples, through local church families (imperfect followers of Christ). God's Spirit, now, works through the Body of Christ, world-wide ... to Exalt Christ. He is still doing this, even Today ... if we will let Him.

Praying to the Holy Spirit, directly ... praying to Him (the Holy Spirit)?

No one in all of Scripture is ever recorded as **Praying to the Holy Spirit directly**, calling on His Name or anything like that or having a conversation with the Holy Spirit. No, that is **never** seen. We only see followers of Christ praying to God the Father in the Name of Christ or to Christ directly (as in the case of Stephen in Acts 7:59). We see teaching about Praying to God in the Name of Christ, Praying "in the Holy Spirit" unto God (Ephesians 2:18; John 16:23-24)

The Holy Spirit Speaks, but He seems to ONLY Speak about and Glorifies Jesus Christ:

We **do** read that the Holy Spirit spoke clearly with full directive in **Acts 13:1-3** regarding Barnabas and Saul. The Bible, itself is Inspired and God Breathed by the Holy Spirit (2 Tim 3:16-17; 2 Pet 1:19-21) **The Bible is from God the Father, through the Living Word of God (Jesus) via the Holy Spirit**

He only Speaks about Jesus Christ and His Mission, etc... John 14:26 - **But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My Name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.**

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.**

John 16:12-15: ¹²“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.

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. ¹⁴ He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.

The Holy Spirit will **NEVER EVER** bring attention to Himself, never, ever, will He seek to bring attention to Himself → But **ONLY** to Jesus Christ. He will always seek to Exalt and Glorify Christ Jesus. Therefore, if you know of a Preacher, Tele-Evangelist (TV Preacher), Pastor, Church Leader, so-called Prophet, etc... who focusses all kinds of teachings and energy on the Holy Spirit ... **BEWARE** → because if a person is really truly Filled with and Led forth by the Holy Spirit, then he/she will talk a lot about Jesus Christ, preach a lot, teach a lot about Jesus Christ ... because God's Holy Spirit will Teach, Preach, and Speak a lot about Jesus Christ and Glorify Jesus ... **Jesus said so!!!**

God's Holy Spirit can be lied to, He can be grieved, and we will suffer the consequences:

We do read that when Ananias and Sapphira lied to the Holy Spirit, the apostle Peter said that they LIED to God (Acts 5:1-11). So, in that case, when Ananias and Sapphira lied to the apostles in public, in the assembly of the believers in Christ (the church family gathering) ... because God's Spirit Presides over all assemblies, they in essence Lied in front of the church, thus lied in front of God's Presence, the Holy Spirit.

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed unto the day of redemption. (Ephesians 4:30)

God, the Holy Spirit Lives in Us ... HE is Real, He is a Person, the 3rd Divine Person of the Trinity of God ... He is God ... He is HOLY ... He is the Spirit of Truth and He will lead us into Truth. He will never, ever, ever, lead us into Doctrinal Error, into False Teaching ... and He will attempt to lead us away from False Teachings and Heresies, etc. if we will listen to Him. He is called the Spirit of LIFE and thus He allows us to Experience the very LIVING Dynamic LIFE of the LIVING God ... in the Name of the Living Word of God, Jesus Christ.

He is here to Encourage us to Follow and Obey Christ, to Live for Christ, to live to Please God, to Trust in God, to Read and Study His Word, to Know His Word, to Live according to His Word, to Spread His Word, to Spread the Gospel of Christ to the lost world of sinners around us. He is the One who is changing us, as we cooperate with Him, to become more like Christ ... and most of the time God uses the hard circumstances of life to Transform us ... and the Holy Spirit uses those situations to change us internally in ways only God can.

Next week, we will look deeper at how the Sanctifying Work of the Holy Spirit works in use ... to change us to become more like Jesus Christ.