

Who Is The Holy Spirit? Pneumatology - The Doctrine Of The Holy Spirit - Part 1

(Acts 19:1-2) The Holy Spirit is one of the least known and most misunderstood persons of the Godhead. On the one hand there is much emphasis on Him in some "Christian" circles (e.g. Pentecostalism), though not all this attention has been scripturally based. On the other, in order not to be confused or "contaminated", if you will, with some of the "excesses of Pentecostalism", many otherwise biblical churches have essentially shunned even mentioning His name. Given that every genuine Christian has _____
_____ (Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 3:16-17; 6:19), we would be very wise to get to know Him.

I. The Holy Spirit and the Trinity.

That the Holy Spirit is _____ is clear from Scripture. The word "Trinity" does not appear in the Bible, yet it is one of the most fundamental of truths, and is clearly taught throughout God's Word.

The Trinity is a mystery that goes beyond _____ but not against _____, and is known only by _____ (1 Corinthians 2:14).

There is one God (Deut. 6:4); and yet throughout the Old and New Testaments of the Bible we find it clearly articulated that there are _____ that are God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The OT (cf. Gen. 1:1: "God" is in the plural form - *Elohim*; also 1:26, "us" & "our") gave us _____ of what would be _____ in more detail in the NT. (cf. Matt. 28:19)

Acts 5:1-11 - Who were Ananias and Sapphira lying to? A: _____ (v. 3), _____ (v. 4), and _____ (v. 9) Here in this text _____ and _____ are clearly identified as God (cf. Phil. 2:10-11).

The Trinity is not three _____ (tritheism); it's not three _____ of God; and it doesn't teach that the Father _____ the Son and Holy Spirit.

The _____: "There is one only and true God, but in unity of the Godhead there are three coeternal and coequal Persons, the same in substance but distinct in subsistence." - B.B. Warfield. (Also see: *Baptist Faith and Message*, "II. God", pg. 9)

"We worship one God, in Trinity, and Trinity in unity, neither confounding the persons, nor dividing the subsistence." - "Athanasian Creed", cir. A.D. 250.

Other passages that speak to the Trinity include: Num. 11:25; Jud. 3:10; Ps. 110:1; Prov. 8:22-31; Isa. 6:3, 8; 48:16; 59:20-21; 63:9-10; Matt. 3:13-17; John 1:1-3, 14; Acts 7:55; Gal. 4:4-6; 2 Cor. 5:19-21; 13:14; Heb. 9:14; 1 Pet. 1:2; 1 John 5:7.

II. Who is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is as much a _____ as God the Father, and God the Son. The Holy Spirit is not _____, nor is He simply a _____ or _____. The Greek and Hebrew words for "spirit" mean essentially "breath" or "wind", and came to be used for the unseen reality of living beings, especially God and man. "

Some of the misunderstanding about the role and person of the Holy Spirit is due to the fact that His work is not as _____ or as out front as that of the Father and of Jesus. His work is not to call attention to Himself, but lift up and point people to the Father and Son (John 16:13-14 KJV).

A. That the Holy Spirit is a "person" versus an "it" is clear from Scripture; for example:

1. He has _____ (1 Cor. 2:10-11, 13; Rom. 8:27)
2. He shows _____ (Eph. 4:30)
3. He has a _____ (1 Cor. 12:11; Acts 16:6-11)
4. He is _____ (Acts 10:19-21)
5. He can be _____ (Acts 5:3)
6. He can be _____ (Matt. 12:31)
7. He can be _____ (Heb. 10:29)
8. And more...

B. As the third Person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit is also God, coequal with the Father and Son (Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14). As deity, He possesses all the power and attributes of God, for example:

1. He is _____ (Ps. 139; note v. 7)
2. He is _____ (1 Cor. 2:10)
3. He is _____ (Gen. 1:1-2; Job 33:4)
4. He is _____ (Heb. 9:14)
5. He is _____ (Isa. 63:10; Rom. 1:4)

John 14:16-17; 16:7 - Jesus speaks of a "another helper", which means _____. The Holy Spirit has the same essence of _____ as does Jesus, and is in perfect accord or unity with Him.

Why a message on doctrine? Your faith will be tested and challenged. Knowing the essential doctrines of the Bible, of the Christian faith helps us to get a handle on "true

truth" that we might live our lives in the light of our God, our Savior, and His Word. It truly matters what you believe.