

Chapter 30: The Work of the Holy Spirit

What are the distinctive activities of the Holy Spirit throughout the history of the Bible?

Explanation and Scriptural Basis (634-635)

The work of the Holy Spirit is to manifest the active presence of God in the world, and especially in the church.

- A) The Holy Spirit empowers (636-639)
 - 1) He gives life. (Ps. 104:30; Job 34:14-15; John 3:6-7, 33; Matt. 1:18)
 - 2) He gives power for service.
 - a) Old Testament (Num. 27:18; Deut. 34:9; 1 Sam. 11:6; Isa. 63:11-12; Isa. 11:2-3)
 - b) New Testament (Matt. 3:16; Luke 4:14, 18-19; Acts 1:8; 1 Cor. 12:11; Eph. 2:18)
- B) The Holy Spirit purifies. (John 16:8-11; 1 Cor. 6:11; Matt. 3:11; Gal. 5:22-23; 2 Cor. 3:18; Rom. 8:13) (639-640)
- C) The Holy Spirit reveals. (640-645)
 - 1) Revelation to Prophets and Apostles (2 Peter 1:21; Matt. 22:43; John 16:13)
 - 2) He gives evidence of God's presence. (John 15:26; Num. 11:25-26; Judg. 14:6; 1 Sam. 10:6, 10; Acts 2:2-3; Rom. 8:16; Gal. 4:6; 2 Cor. 1:22)
 - 3) He guides and directs God's people. (Isa. 30:1; Matt. 4:1; Acts 8:29, 39-40; Gal. 5:16-26; Acts. 15:28)
 - 4) He provides a Godlike atmosphere when he manifests his presence. (John 16:8-11; Rom. 5:5, 14:7; 1 Thess. 1:6; John 14:17; Deut. 34:9; Rom. 14:17; Rom. 8:15-16)
 - 5) He gives us assurance. (Rom. 8:16; 1 John 3:24, 4:13)
 - 6) He teaches and illumines. (John 14:26, 16:13; Luke 12:12; Acts 11:28; 1 Tim. 4:1; 1 Cor. 2:10-12; Eph. 1:17-19)
- D) The Holy Spirit unifies. (Acts 2:16-18, 44-47; 2 Cor. 13:14; Phil. 2:1-2; Eph. 4:3; Col. 3:14) (645-647)
- E) The Holy Spirit gives stronger or weaker evidence of the presence and blessing of God according to our response to him. (647-649)
 - 1) Jesus was without sin and the Holy Spirit "remained on him." (John 1:32, 3:34)
 - 2) The Holy Spirit can be grieved and cease to bring blessing in a situation. (Acts 7:51; Eph. 4:30; 1 Thess. 5:19; 1 Cor. 6:19-20)
 - 3) More serious offense of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 5:3; Heb. 10:29)
 - 4) Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit (Matt. 12:31-32)
 - 5) In the life of Christians whose conduct is pleasing to God, the Holy Spirit will be present to bring great blessing. (Acts 2:17-18; 1 Cor. 3:16; 2 Cor. 3:14; John 7:38-39; 1 Peter 4:14)
 - 6) Therefore it is important that all our ministry be done in the Holy Spirit. (Luke 10:21; Acts 19:21; Rom. 9:1; Eph. 2:18; Col. 1:8; Eph. 5:18)
 - 7) Therefore in our Christian lives it is important that we depend on the Holy Spirit's power. (Zech. 4:6; Rom. 8:4-6, 12-16)

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