

The Holy Spirit's Full Divinity

From Seven Threatened Truths

The Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Godhead; He has existed forever, and is equal in divinity to the other two Persons of the Godhead.

THE BIBLE

First, He has the attributes of divinity: He is Omniscient: "But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God." 1 Corinthians 2:10-12; "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!" Romans 11:33.

He is Omnipotent: "The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life." Job 33:4; "And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." Genesis 1:2.

He is Omnipresent: "Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me." Psalm 139:7-10; "Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." John 14:17.

He is Eternal: "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" Hebrews 9:14.

He is Holy: "And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come." Matthew 12:32.

He is Love: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith," (Galatians 5:22).

He is Truth "Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." John 14:17. "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:" John 15:26.

Second, He does the works of divinity:

The Creation: "And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." Genesis 1:2. "Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth." Psalm 104:30; "By his spirit he hath garnished the heavens; his hand hath formed the crooked serpent." Job 26:13.

The Birth of Christ: "But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost." Matthew 1:20.

The Inspiration of God's Word: "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." 2 Peter 1:21.

The New Birth. "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;" Titus 3:5; "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." John 3:6.

Intercession: "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." Romans 8:26.

Ministry: "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;" John 14:16.

THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

"The Lord Jesus acts through the Holy Spirit; for it is His representative." Messages to Young People, 55.

"We need to realize that the Holy Spirit, who is as much a person as God is a person, is walking through these grounds." Manuscript 66, 1899 (Evangelism, 616).

"The Holy Spirit is a person, for He beareth witness with our spirits that we are the children of God. When this witness is borne, it carries with it its own evidence. At such times we believe and are sure that we are children of God. .

"The Holy Spirit has a personality, else He could not bear witness to our spirits and with our spirits that we are the children of God. He must also be a Divine Person, else He could not search out the secrets which lie hidden in the mind of God. 'For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.'" Manuscript 20, 1906 (Evangelism, 616-617).

"Those who reject the Spirit of truth place themselves under the control of a spirit that is opposed to the Word and work of God. For a time they may continue to teach some phases of the truth, but their refusal to accept all the light God sends will after a time place them where they will do the work of a false watchman. . There will always be those who are seeking for something new and who stretch and strain the Word of God to make it support their ideas and theories." Sermons and Talks, Vol. I, 385, 387 (Manuscript 125, September 4, 1907).

THE THREE PERSONS OF THE GODHEAD

"The Godhead was stirred with pity for the race, and the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit gave Themselves to the working out of the plan of redemption." Counsels on Health, 222.

"The three powers of the Godhead, the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit, are pledged to be their strength and their efficiency in their new life in Christ Jesus." Australian Union Conference Record, October 7, 1907.

"We are to co-operate with the three highest powers in heaven, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, and these powers will work through us, making us workers together with God." Special Testimonies, Series B. No. 7.51 (Evangelism, 617).

"When we have accepted Christ, and in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit have pledged ourselves to serve God, the Father, Christ, and the Holy Spirit -the three dignitaries and powers of heaven pledge themselves that every facility shall be given to us if we carry out our baptismal vows to "come out from among them, and be . . separate. . and touch not the unclean thing." 6 Bible Commentary. 1075 (Manuscript 85. 1901).

"Our sanctification is the work of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. . Have you been born again? Have you become a new being in Christ Jesus? Then cooperate with the three great powers of heaven who are working in your behalf." 7 Bible Commentary. 908 (Manuscript 11. 1901).

"There are three living Persons of the heavenly trio; in the name of these three great powers, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, those who receive Christ by living faith are baptized, and these powers will co-operate with the obedient subjects of heaven in their efforts to live the new life in Christ." Special Testimonies, Series B, No.7. 63 (Evangelism, 615).

"The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost supply the power that makes him victorious in every conflict with the prince of darkness." 6 Manuscript Releases, 167 (Letter 200, December 15, 1902).

"They pledge themselves to devote their lives to God's service; and the three great powers in heaven, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, pledge Themselves to cooperate with them, to work in and through them." 6 Manuscript Releases, 166 (Manuscript 118, October 6. 1902).

"As a Christian submits to the solemn rite of baptism, the three highest powers in the universe, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, place Their approval on this act, pledging Themselves to exert Their power in his behalf as he strives to honor God." 6 Manuscript Releases, 26 (Letter 53, January 26. 1904; 4 Signs, 399. August 16. 1905),

"Those who submit to the solemn rite of baptism pledge themselves to devote their lives to God's service; and the three great powers of heaven, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, pledge themselves to cooperate with them, to work in and through them." 4 Signs, 282 (March 11. 1903).

The Full Ministry of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Godhead, is working to draw us to God and save us. We should not deny His existence.

THE BIBLE

First, He exhibits five attributes of a person:

He has intellect—The Spirit searches all things; (1 Corinthians 2:10).

He has knowledge—The Holy Spirit understands the mind of God; (1 Corinthians 2:11).

He has a mind—The Father knows the mind of the Spirit; (Romans 8:27).

He has emotions—Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God; (Ephesians 4:30). The Holy Spirit is grieved when we lie (v. 25), are angry (v. 26), steal or are lazy (v. 28), or speak unkind words (v. 29).

He has a will: "Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia," (Acts 16:6).

Second, He does ten things, which a divine Person would do:

He testifies--He will bear witness of Me; (John 15:26).

He helps—He is the "Comforter" (John 14:16).

He teaches—He teaches us (John 14:26).

He guides—He guides us in our search for truth (John 16:13).

He convinces and convicts—He convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16:8).

He regenerates (Ezekiel 36:25-27; Titus 3:5).

He intercedes (Romans 8:26, 34; Hebrews 7:25). He commands ("Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot." Acts 8:29; "As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them." Acts 13:2). He sends out ("So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus." Acts 13:4). He forbids and prohibits ("Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia," Acts 16:6).

Third, certain things can be done toward Him, which could not be done if He did not have a personality; He can be obeyed—In Acts 10, the Lord told Peter to go to the house of Cornelius. He obeyed the Holy Spirit and went.

He can be resisted—Stephen told the Jews, about to stone him, that they were "stiff-necked . . . always resisting the Holy Spirit"—(Acts 7:51).

He can be grieved—The Holy Spirit is grieved when a person sins; ("And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." Ephesians 4:30: "But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them." Isaiah 63:10).

He can be blasphemed—"And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come." Matthew 12:32: "But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation:" Mark 3:29).

He can be lied to—"But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?" Acts 5:3).

Fourth, He is frequently referred to in the grammatical masculine ("But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:" John 15:26. "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you." John 16:13-14).

THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

"Evil had been accumulating for centuries, and could only be restrained and resisted by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Godhead, who would come with no modified energy, but in the fullness of divine power. Another spirit must be met; for the essence of evil was working in all ways, and the submission of man to this satanic captivity was amazing." Testimonies to Ministers, 392.

"The Holy Spirit unites with the powers of grace that God has provided to turn souls to Christ." 5 Review, 341.

"The prince of the power of evil can only be held in check by the power of God in the Third Person of the Godhead, the Holy Spirit." Special Testimonies, Series A. No. 10, 37 (Evangelism, 617).

"By the Spirit which searches all things, even the deep things of God, have been revealed precious truths which cannot be described by pen or voice." Sons and Daughters of God, 34.

"The Holy Spirit was eagerly sought for in the schools of the prophets." 12 Manuscript Releases, 147 (Manuscript 69. June 19. 1908).

"The time (after Christ's ascension) had now come. The Spirit had been waiting for the crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension of Christ. For ten days the disciples offered their petitions for the outpouring of the Spirit, and Christ in heaven added His intercession." 6 Bible Commentary, 1055.

"Cumbered with humanity, Christ could not be in every place personally; therefore it was altogether for their advantage that He should leave them, go to His Father, and send the Holy Spirit to be His successor on earth. The Holy Spirit is Himself divested of the personality of humanity and independent thereof. He [Christ] would represent Himself as present in all places by His Holy Spirit, as the Omnipresent." 14 Manuscript Releases, 23 (Manuscript 5a. 1895; Desire of Ages, 669-670 is similar).

"He (Christ) would intercede for them, and would send them His own representative, the Holy Spirit, who would attend them in their work. This representative would not appear in human form, but by faith would be seen and recognized by all who should believe in Christ." 3 Review, 511 (October 26, 1896).

"Christ, as Mediator, is the great Minister in the work of redemption. The Holy Spirit is His representative in our world, to execute the divine purpose of bringing to fallen man power from above, that he may be an overcomer. 7 Bible Commentary, 922.

"The Saviour promised that His presence would be always with them. Through the Holy Spirit He would be even nearer to them than when He walked visibly among men." Ministry of Healing, 104.

"Jesus had assured them that He would send the Comforter, as an equivalent for His visible presence." 3 Spirit of Prophecy, 256.

"Why should we not expect the Holy Watcher to come into our schools?" Counsels to Teachers, 370. {The Holy Spirit as a Person walking in our schools: 8T 62. the whole page; CT 68; 417-418.}