

## The Holy Spirit Is A Person 3016

### I. Introduction

- A. When it comes to blessing the human race, no person of the Godhead is willing to be left out. In each of the five great interventions of God in redemption, each person of the Godhead is directly involved:
1. The incarnation Of Jesus  
God the Father, by the agency of the Holy Spirit, incarnated Jesus the Son in the womb of the virgin Mary.
  2. The earthly ministry of Jesus  
God the Father anointed Jesus the Son with the power of the Holy Spirit. The result: Healing and deliverance for humanity (Acts 10:38).
  3. The atonement of Jesus  
Jesus the Son offered Himself to God the Father through the Holy Spirit (Heb. 9:14).
  4. The resurrection of Jesus  
God the Father raised up Jesus the Son by the power of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 1:4, 6:4).
  5. The gift of the Holy Spirit
    - a. At Pentecost, Jesus the Son received from God the Father the gift of the Holy Spirit and poured it out upon His disciples(Acts 2:32–33).
    - b. Likewise, the ongoing relationship of God to His people in this age directly involves all three Persons of the Godhead.
- B. The end purpose of God is that we come to Him as Father; but we have access to God the Father only through Jesus the Son by the Holy Spirit (Eph. 2:18–19). Similarly, God the Father indwells His people only in Jesus the Son through the Holy Spirit (Eph. 2:22).
- C. Toward the close of His earthly ministry, Jesus prepared His disciples for the fact that, as a Person, He would leave them and that another Person—the Holy Spirit—would then come to take His place. He emphasized the following truths:
1. The Holy Spirit is *the* promise of the Father (Luke 24:46–49; Acts 1:4)
  2. There was to be *an exchange of Persons*. First Jesus was to leave, then the Holy Spirit would come in His place (John 14:15–19).
- D. John 14:18 refers to the coming of Jesus (at Pentecost) *in the Person of the Holy Spirit*. John 14:3 refers to the second coming of Jesus, *in His own Person*, at the close of the age.
- E. Three main purposes for which the Holy Spirit came:
1. To complete the ministry of Christ (John 14:26, 16:12–13)
  2. To form the corporate body of Christ
  3. To prepare the bride of Christ
- F. In this age, the Holy Spirit is the resident, personal representative of the Godhead on earth. His dwelling place is described in two ways:
1. 1 Cor. 3:16–17 refers to the *collective* temple—the Church.
  2. 1 Cor. 6:19–20 refers to the *individual* temple—the physical body of each believer. Jesus is Lord *over* the Church; the Holy Spirit is Lord *in* the Church.

- G.** From resurrection onward, Jesus operated always and only through the Holy Spirit (Rom. 6:4, Acts 1:2). We need to be *equally dependent* upon the Holy Spirit for Christian living (Rom. 8:14–15, Gal. 3:1; 5:4).
- H.** Paul uses the household of Abraham to illustrate the difference between the *works of the law* and the *hearing of faith*. This brings out three important lessons:
1. The promised inheritance depended as much upon Sarah as upon Abraham. Husband and wife are “heirs together,” i.e. joint heirs (1 Peter 3:7).
  2. Ishmael was a product of the best efforts of Abraham and Sarah *without God*.
  3. Before Abraham and Sarah could receive their inheritance, they each had their name changed by the insertion of the “breath” letter “h”: from Abram to **Abraham** and from Sarai to **Sarah**. The lesson: we cannot receive our inheritance until we are filled with the “breath” of the Holy Spirit.