

What divine work does the Holy Spirit do?

1. Often overlooked is the divine work of the Holy Spirit. Examine the following passages and note your observations of the work of the Holy Spirit (Gen 1:1-2, 26-27; 2:7; Matt 1:18-20; Luke 1:30-35; Acts 1:16; Acts 28:25; 2 Pet 1:20-21; John 3:5-8; 20:21-22; Acts 2:1-4; 10:44-45; Isa 63:11-14; Acts 1:8; 4:8-10). Language tip: In both Hebrew and Greek, the term for “Spirit,” in Holy Spirit, can also be translated in English as “wind” or “breath.”

Bible Verses	Observations
<p>In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters. (Gen 1:1-2)</p>	<p>The Holy Spirit was actively involved with Creation.</p>
<p>Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. (Gen 1:26-27)</p> <p>Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. (Gen 2:7)</p>	<p>The Holy Spirit was involved with the creation of man.</p>
<p>Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly. But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. (Matt 1:18-20)</p> <p>The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God. (Luke 1:30-35)</p>	<p>The Holy Spirit was involved with the human conception of Jesus, God in the flesh. Note that Jesus was never referred as the “Son of the Holy Spirit.”</p>
<p>Brethren, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit foretold by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. (Acts 1:16)</p> <p>And when they did not agree with one another, they began leaving after Paul had spoken one parting word, “The Holy Spirit rightly spoke through Isaiah the prophet to your fathers, (Acts 28:25)</p> <p>But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. (2 Pet 1:20-21)</p>	<p>The Holy Spirit was involved with the Inspiration of the Bible.</p>

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<p>Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit." (John 3:5-8)</p> <p>So Jesus said to them again, "Peace <i>be</i> with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. (John 20:21-22)</p> <p>When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. (Acts 2:1-4)</p> <p>While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message. All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. (Acts 10:44-45)</p>	<p>The Holy Spirit is the means for the regeneration and sanctification of Believers.</p>
<p>Then His people remembered the days of old, of Moses. Where is He who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of His flock? Where is He who put His Holy Spirit in the midst of them, Who caused His glorious arm to go at the right hand of Moses, Who divided the waters before them to make for Himself an everlasting name, Who led them through the depths? Like the horse in the wilderness, they did not stumble; As the cattle which go down into the valley, The Spirit of the LORD gave them rest. So You led Your people, To make for Yourself a glorious name. (Isa 63:11-14)</p> <p>but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." (Acts 1:8)</p> <p>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of the people, if we are on trial today for a benefit done to a sick man, as to how this man has been made well, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by this name this man stands here before you in good health. (Acts 4:8-10)</p>	<p>With the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, Believers are given powers for serving God.</p>

References:

1. Swindoll CR, Zuck RB eds., *Understanding Christian Theology*, Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, (2003).
2. Grudem W, *Systematic Theology*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, (2000).

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