

## Introduction

### Common Questions

What is the Holy Spirit?

Who is the Holy Spirit?

What does the Holy Spirit do in our lives?

Where is the Holy Spirit?

How does the Holy Spirit interact with human beings?



[www.helpmewithbiblestudy.org/3system\\_holyspirit/intro1.aspx](http://www.helpmewithbiblestudy.org/3system_holyspirit/intro1.aspx)

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### Pneumatology?!

The systematic study of the Holy Spirit is called Pneumatology.

Pneumatology is formed from two Greek terms:

"Pneuma," which is translated as "wind" or "spirit," conveys the idea of "air set in motion" and is regarded as something of substance.

"Logos," in the philosophical context, has the meaning of "discourse" with a view towards didactic teaching and presumes the collection and careful arrangement of information.

pneu·ma·tol·o·gist \,n(y)ümə'täləjəst\ n -s : one trained or skilled in pneumatology; *specif* : one esp. prepared by training and experience to interpret the theological doctrine of the Holy Spirit  
pneu·ma·tol·o·gy \-jē, -ji\ n -ES [NL *pneumatologia*, fr. *pneumat-* + *-logia* -logy] 1 **a** : the doctrine or theory of spiritual beings (as the Holy Spirit and spirits between God and man) **b** (1) : the doctrine of spiritual phenomena (2) : magical or necromantic love 2 *archaic* : a

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### Confusion With the Holy Ghost

Is the Holy Spirit the same as the Holy Ghost?

In the 1611 King James version of the Bible, the same Greek terms were translated as two different English words: Holy Spirit and Holy Ghost.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the **Holy Ghost**. (Matt 1:18)

If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the **Holy Spirit** to them that ask him? (Luke 11:13)

While the still widely read King James version is used as an example here, the use of "Holy Ghost" did not originate in the King James version. It can be found as early as the Wycliffe translation of 1380:

...she was found having of the **Holy Ghost** in the womb. (Matt 1:18)



## Confusion With the Holy Ghost (continues)

Why the translation "Holy Ghost" was introduced is debated among scholars. Did early translators believe that the "spirit of God the Father" of the Old Testament and in the New Testament should be translated as the "Holy Spirit"; but, when in reference of the third person of the Trinity, translate as "Holy Ghost"?

Nevertheless, the Holy Ghost is the same and equivalent in meaning to the Holy Spirit, and today's contemporary Bible translations do not use the phrase "Holy Ghost".

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## Distinctions

Compared to the Holy Spirit, the human spirit is not a separate entity from the human being. Human beings are comprised of two parts: a physical body and a spirit. In contrast, the Spirit of God is an entity by Itself without a physical body (Ezek 36:25-28; John 14:26).

Compared to the Holy Spirit, angels are similar in that they are both spirit beings without a physical body; however, the Holy Spirit is not a type of angel nor created as angels were.

The phrase "the Angel of the Lord" is not a type of angel; instead it is a title reserved for the pre-incarnate form of Jesus Christ.



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## Take the Quiz!

1. The Holy Ghost is...
  - a. Holy Gost in Middle English
  - b. Holy Spirit
  - c. Third Person of the Trinity
  - d. All of the above

The answer is "d"! The Holy Ghost is spelled "Holy Gost" in Middle English, is exactly the same as "Holy Spirit", and is the third Person of the Trinity!

2. Is the Holy Spirit to God as the human spirit is to man?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No

The answer is "b". Whereas a human being is comprised of a body and a spirit, God is not comprised in like manner; the Holy Spirit is a person by Himself. The Holy Spirit, as part of the Trinity, is not apart from God.

3. Is the Holy Spirit a spirit being like a created angelic being?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No

The correct answer is "b"; you know the distinction!

4. Is the Holy Spirit the Angel of the Lord?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No

The correct answer is "b". The Angel of the Lord is Jesus Christ!

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## Divine Personal Being

### Is Divine

What evidence is there for the deity of the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is seen as the Spirit of God (Gen 1:2; 1 Cor 3:16).

The Holy Spirit is seen as the Spirit of Jesus Christ (Acts 16:7; Gal 4:6; 1 Pet 1:11).

The Holy Spirit is seen as distinct from God and Jesus Christ (John 14:26; John 15:26; John 16:7-14).

The Holy Spirit has qualities of God:

All knowing with infinite awareness, understanding and insight (Isa 40:13-14; 1 Cor 2:10-11).

Present everywhere at the same time and simultaneously in all Believers (Ps 139:7-10; 1 Cor 6:19-20).

All powerful with unlimited power (Job 33:4; Rom 15:18-19).

Eternal (Heb 9:14).

When the Holy Spirit is described as the seven Spirits of God, it is in the context of an individual Being (Zech 4:1-10), comprised of seven individual entities (Rev 4:5), a part of God and omnipresent, and possessed by Jesus Christ (Rev 5:6).

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### Part of the Triune Nature of God

The Holy Spirit is distinguished among persons of the Trinity.

Jesus distinguishes the Holy Spirit from God and Himself (John 14:16; John 15:26; John 16:7).

The apostles distinguish the Holy Spirit from God and Jesus (Matt 3:16-17; 28:19; Rom 15:16; 2 Cor 1:21-22; 2 Cor 13:14; Eph 3:14-17; 2 Thess 2:13-14; 1 Pet 1:2).

There is a hierarchy in the functional roles that each Person of the Trinity play.

The Father sent the Son whose purpose was to reveal the Father. The Son sent the Spirit whose purpose was to reveal the Son.

James Packer portrays another perspective, "God the Father is the giver of the Holy Scripture; God the Son is the theme of Holy Scripture; and God the Spirit is the author, authenticator, and interpreter, of Holy Scripture."

But there is no hierarchy in the nature of each Person of the Trinity.

In nature, they are equal in divinity, divine source and essential for the activities of God.

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## A Person

Is the Holy Spirit simply a spirit or essence of God? Or does the Holy Spirit have characteristics of a person?

To be considered a person, the Holy Spirit must have 3 characteristics: 1) intelligence and moral knowledge, 2) emotion, and 3) volitional will.

The Bible explicitly indicates that the Holy Spirit has moral knowledge and intelligence:

He can teach (John 14:26).

He approves of some activities (Acts 15:28) and forbids or disallows others (Acts 16:6-7).

The Holy Spirit experiences emotions such as being grieved (Isa 63:10; Eph 4:30):

The Holy Spirit demonstrates that He has a will. Not only does the Holy Spirit exhibit the characteristics of a person, He is referred to with personal pronouns. Called a "Helper," "Counselor" or "Comforter," the Bible explicitly describes the Holy Spirit as a person who intentionally helps and comforts Believers (John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7).

He can intercede and pray for human beings (Rom 8:26-27).

He distributes gifts (1 Cor 12:11).



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## Take the Quiz!

1. What God qualities does the Holy Spirit have?
  - a. Omniscient and omnipotent
  - b. Invisible
  - c. Present everywhere
  - d. Only "a" and "c"
  - e. All of the above

The correct answer is "d". The Holy Spirit has the divine qualities of omniscience, omnipotence, and omnipresence (present everywhere).

2. The Holy Spirit is distinguishable among the Persons of the Trinity.
  - a. True
  - b. False

The correct answer is "a". The Holy Spirit is a distinct person within the Trinity.

3. The Holy Spirit a spirit being which is why it is lesser in nature than God and Jesus.
  - a. True
  - b. False

The correct answer is "b". Each Person of the Trinity is equal in nature. A hierarchy exists in the functional role each plays.

## Take the Quiz! (continues)

4. What characteristics does the Holy Spirit have that qualifies Him as a Person?
- Moral knowledge, emotion, and obeys God
  - Intelligence, emotion, and intentional
  - Moral knowledge, without emotion or prejudice, and a will
  - Programmed, emotion, and willful

The correct answer is "b". The qualities that determine if one is a person are intelligence / moral knowledge, emotion and a will (intentional).

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### His Work for God

#### Spectacular Works

The Bible records the Holy Spirit as participating in all of the significant acts of God.

The Holy Spirit was involved with Creation (Gen 1:1-2).

The Holy Spirit was involved with the creation of man (Gen 1:26-27; 2:7).

The Holy Spirit was involved with the inspiration of the Bible (Acts 1:16; 28:25; 2 Pet 1:20-21).

The Holy Spirit was involved with the conception of Jesus (Matt 1:18-20; Luke 1:30-35).

The Holy Spirit was with Jesus during His temptation in the wilderness (Luke 4:1-2).

The Holy Spirit was present during the atonement of Jesus Christ (Heb 9:13-14).

The Holy Spirit was involved with the resurrection of Jesus Christ (Rom 8:11).

[www.helpmewithbiblestudy.org/3system\\_holyspirit/worksForGod1.aspx](http://www.helpmewithbiblestudy.org/3system_holyspirit/worksForGod1.aspx)

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#### Activity in the Life of Jesus

As seen earlier, the Holy Spirit was involved with the conception of Jesus, His temptation in the wilderness, His death and resurrection. The Holy Spirit was also intimately involved with Jesus' ministry.

Jesus attributed the source of His authority to the Holy Spirit (Luke 4:16-21).

The Holy Spirit was in Jesus' being and anointed Him with supernatural power (Acts 10:38; Luke 4:18).

As Jesus preaches the Good News, He indicates that one must have the Holy Spirit to enter the kingdom of God (John 3:5).



[www.helpmewithbiblestudy.org/3system\\_holyspirit/worksForGod2.aspx](http://www.helpmewithbiblestudy.org/3system_holyspirit/worksForGod2.aspx)

## Activity in the Life of the Old Testament Man

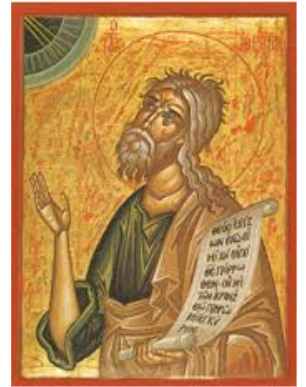
Before Jesus was born, the Holy Spirit was active in the life of man in a variety of ways as some of these examples show.

The Holy Spirit sustained life (Gen 6:3; Job 34:14-15).

The Holy Spirit spoke through various people such as prophets of Israel (Isa 59:21; Zech 7:12), a warrior (1 Chron 12:18), and a pagan prophet (Num 24:2, 4).

The Holy Spirit brought the power of God (Judg 14:6).

The Holy Spirit provided knowledge (Ex 35:31-35).



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## Take the Quiz!

1. What are some of the divine works that the Holy Spirit was involved with?
  - a. The Holy Spirit was involved with Creation and the creation of man
  - b. The Holy Spirit was involved with the conception of Jesus, His temptation in the Wilderness, His crucifixion and His Resurrection
  - c. The Holy Spirit inspired Moses with the writing of the first five books of the Bible
  - d. Only "a" and "b"
  - e. All of the above

The correct answer is "d". Good for you! You remembered that God spoke directly to Moses in the writing of the Pentateuch (Ex 19:9; 29:42; 33:9).

2. Because Jesus is God, He does not need the Holy Spirit to be the source of His authority.
  - a. True
  - b. False

The correct answer is "b". Jesus Himself attributed the source of His authority to the Holy Spirit (Luke 4:16-21).

3. The Holy Spirit sustains life.
  - a. True
  - b. False

The correct answer is "a". The Holy Spirit sustained life (Gen 6:3; Job 34:14-15).

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## In the Believer / Church

### The New Covenant

Throughout the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit would come upon people, depart, and never stay with the individual (Num 11:25-29; 1 Sam 16:14).

## **The New Covenant (continues)**

When God makes the unconditional New Covenant, He promises:

... this is My covenant with them, ...My Spirit which is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth shall not depart from your mouth,... (Isa 59:21)

I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances. (Ezek 36:25-28)

### **God promises the indwelling of the Holy Spirit!**

When Jesus arrives, He provides some additional information about the New Covenant:

He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, "From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. (John 7:38-39)

And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high. (Luke 24:49)

But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. (John 16:13)

### **Faith in Jesus Christ initiates the New Covenant and the Believer receives the Holy Spirit who is the guide into a deeper understanding of God and His promises!**

After the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the apostles elaborate further on what God intended with the Holy Spirit in the context of the New Covenant:

In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory. (Eph 1:13-14)

In ancient times, clay was used to seal a scroll to preserve the authenticity of its contents. In a similar manner, the Holy Spirit validates a genuine Believer. For the Believer, the Holy Spirit is God's pledge or assurance that His promised inheritance will come true!

[www.helpmewithbiblestudy.org/3system\\_holyspirit/inTheBeliever1.aspx](http://www.helpmewithbiblestudy.org/3system_holyspirit/inTheBeliever1.aspx)

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### **Salvation from the Penalty of Sin**

Thus the gift of the Holy Spirit, as God promised in the New Covenant (Isa 59:21; Ezek 36:25-28), becomes an agent of sanctification.

The Holy Spirit sanctifies by washing the heart and renewing the mind (Tit 3:4-7).

The Holy Spirit sanctifies by assuring the Believer of the indwelling presence of Jesus Christ (Acts 16:6-7; Phil 1:19; 1 Pet 1:11).

The Holy Spirit sanctifies by helping the Believer understand the Scriptures (1 Cor 2:10-16; Eph 3:3-6).

The Holy Spirit sanctifies by attesting to the reality of Believer's faith, brands the Believer as a property of God's, and guarantees his inheritance in the future completion of salvation (2 Cor 1:21-22; 5:5).

[www.helpmewithbiblestudy.org/3system\\_holyspirit/inTheBeliever2.aspx](http://www.helpmewithbiblestudy.org/3system_holyspirit/inTheBeliever2.aspx)



## Distinction: Indwelling vs Baptism

The indwelling of the Holy Spirit at the time of regeneration is sometimes confused with the "baptism of the Holy Spirit." What is the difference?

Indwelling of the Holy Spirit occurs at the time when one comes to faith.

"Baptism of the Holy Spirit" can occur at the moment of genuine faith or in Believers some time after regeneration.

When the "baptism of the Holy Spirit" took place with the apostles (Acts 2:1-4), it was an event that occurred after their regeneration. When the "baptism of the Holy Spirit" took place with the Gentiles (Acts 10:44-46), it was an event that occurred at the time of regeneration.



All Believers experience the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, and the Spirit does not depart from the Believer.

In contrast, there is no clear biblical evidence that all Believers experience the "baptism of the Holy Spirit," and when it does occur, it is temporary.

[www.helpmewithbiblestudy.org/3system\\_holyspirit/inTheBeliever3.aspx](http://www.helpmewithbiblestudy.org/3system_holyspirit/inTheBeliever3.aspx)

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## Salvation from the Power of Sin

How does the Holy Spirit help the Believer live a sanctified life devoted and dedicated to God?

1. Formerly alienated, blind and deaf to God, the Believer with the Holy Spirit realizes the reality of God's presence and reality of his relationship to God (Gal 4:6-7).
2. While a Believer's sinful nature remains, the Holy Spirit provides the power that enables the Believer freedom from the obligation to live according to his sinful nature (Rom 8:12-13; Gal 5:16-18).
3. The Holy Spirit provides the possibility of salvation from the power of sin; but, it is limited by the degree that the Believer "lives by the Spirit" or "led by the Spirit" (Gal 5:16-18; Zech 4:6).



For example, the "fruit of the Spirit" is the natural product of the Holy Spirit when there is a living relationship between God and the Believer (Gal 5:22-25). The nine different qualities of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control are considered a singular unit and pertain to one's relationship with God, his fellow man and himself.

Because He produced the Bible (1 Pet 1:21), the Holy Spirit helps one understand God's word (1 Cor 2:10-16; Eph 3:3-6) and educates (Tit 3:4-7) or confronts (Eph 6:18); however, it is through one's efforts of "living by the Spirit" and "following the lead of the Spirit" whether the fruit of the Spirit is achieved (Gal 5:25).

4. The Holy Spirit helps sustain Believers during burdens and disappointments through intercession and prayer (Rom 8:26-27). It is why Believers are exhorted to pray "in the Spirit" (Eph 6:18).

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## Caring for the Salvation of Others

In making all Believers one by the Spirit (1 Cor 12:13), the Holy Spirit serves a unifying function in bringing Believers together (2 Cor 13:14; Philip 2:1-2) for the singular purpose of serving God (1 Cor 12:27; Eph 2:19-22).

To this community of Believers, the Holy Spirit bestows spiritual gifts (1 Cor 12:1-11) for the purpose of edifying and promoting spiritual maturity (1 Cor 14:12-11) and all for the glory of God (1 Pet 4:10-11).

In this context, serving God is caring about the salvation of others whether it is salvation from the penalty of sin or salvation from the power of sin.

## Spiritual Gifts

Administration	Apostle / Apostleship
Distinguishing Spirits	Evangelist
Exhortation	Faith
Giving	Healing
Helps	Knowledge
Leading	Mercy
Miracles	Pastor
Prophet	Service
Teacher / Teaching	Tongues / Interpretation
Wisdom	

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## Take the Quiz!

1. If it wasn't for the New Covenant, the Holy Spirit would come and depart upon man.
  - a. True
  - b. False

The correct answer is "a". You knew that the indwelling of the Holy Spirit was a promise God made in the New Covenant.

2. How does the Holy Spirit sanctify the New Believer?
  - a. Cleanses the only necessary component of the human being, the mind
  - b. Assures the Believer the indwelling presence of Jesus Christ
  - c. The Holy Spirit is the author of Scripture
  - d. Indwelling of the Holy Spirit is not necessary for salvation

The correct answer is "b". The Holy Spirit sanctifies by assuring the Believer of the indwelling presence of Jesus Christ (1 John 3:24).

3. What is required before the Holy Spirit can help the Believer live a sanctified life devoted and dedicated to God?
  - a. You must be "baptized by the Holy Spirit"
  - b. You must be yourself
  - c. You must be supernaturally empowered so that you can be like God knowing good from evil
  - d. The Holy Spirit can only help if the Believer cooperates and follows His lead

The correct answer is "d"!

4. How does a Believer know that the Holy Spirit is working in his life?
  - a. The nine characteristics of the Fruit of the Spirit is evident
  - b. You recognize and exercise your spiritual gift
  - c. You are being used to edify and bless others in your church
  - d. All of the above

The correct answer is "d"!

[www.helpmewithbiblestudy.org/3system\\_holyspirit/inTheBeliever6.aspx](http://www.helpmewithbiblestudy.org/3system_holyspirit/inTheBeliever6.aspx)

## Conclusion

### Cooperating with the Holy Spirit

Because of God's lovingkindness and fidelity to His covenant, the Holy Spirit regenerates, sanctifies and indwells in all those who have a genuine faith in Jesus Christ and His work of atonement.

In bestowing His Helper, God provides the Holy Spirit as His teacher of how to be holy (John 14:26).

For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words. (1 Cor 2:11-13)

As you seek to cooperate with the Holy Spirit by praying for His leading and listening for His voice, don't forget the surest way of receiving His direction and instruction - namely through Bible study and Scripture memory.

The words of the Bible are the words of God's Spirit.

This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success. (Josh 1:8)

In reading the Bible soundly and memorizing His words, you minimize the risk of listening to the wrong voices and abstracting the plain meaning of Holy Spirit's words.

[www.helpmewithbiblestudy.org/3system\\_holyspirit/conclusion.aspx](http://www.helpmewithbiblestudy.org/3system_holyspirit/conclusion.aspx)