

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

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"But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and in Samara, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up: and a cloud received him out of their sight." Acts 1:8&9.

These were the final words of Jesus before He reentered heaven, and went unto His Father. The disciples returned from the mount of Olives chosen by the Lord to go everywhere in the power of the Holy Spirit. The ministry of this Holy Spirit, of the third person of the Trinity, is valuable beyond words. His presence would accompany all they did for the Father and gave them great authority among men. We who have spent a lifetime preaching know how to please Him, and be used to stir men with His power. In this sermon I want to explore exactly what the Holy Spirit desires to do with man. **(I). Consider His Work With Sinners: He first draws them to the Savior.** *"No man can come to me, except the father which hath sent me draw him": John 6:44.* If you have already accepted Christ as your Savior, trusting Him to have forgiven your sin, one thing is clear. He has worked through the Gospel you have heard, and brought you to that proper and wonderful conclusion. This came through the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit who now dwells within you. Dear new child of God you will never be alone again, but the Spirit of God watches over you day by day. I urge you that may not be saved, to listen for the leading of the Holy Spirit, or you will never be saved. Put yourself within the hearing of the Word of God, and listen and allow its truth to take control of your failed life. **Secondly, He convicts of sin:** *"And when he is come, he will*

reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: John 16:8. You cannot know for sure you are saved until you understand you are a great sinner. *"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God."* Rom. 3:23. Since the days of Adam, all men and women have been born in sin. Sin that can only be forgiven by the shed blood of Jesus on the cross. This will all be revealed to you by the peaceful entrance of the Holy Spirit into your life. This happens when you confess you are a sinner, and accept the gift of eternal life as the gift of God. Those who revel on in their sin have yet to be convicted of their need. Listen to the Spirit's call at an invitation at church, or heed the pleading of a dear friend who cares for you. Be open and honest, and face your sinful life, and allow the Spirit of God to call you to Christ. He will replace conviction with a peace of soul, and warmly enter your life.. **Thirdly, He Reveals Christ As Your Savior:** *"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."* I Cor. 2:14. When the risen Christ went back to heaven, He sent the Holy Spirit as His voice to reveal why He came to earth. How He that had no sin was allowed by the Father to pay the price for redemption to all who would believe. The Spirit gives you peace and assurance that you have become a true child of God in the only way it can be yours, not baptism, nor joining a church, or repeated prayers, and communion, and other false church rituals. It is simply to believe what Jesus did for you, what it accomplished and purchased in full for you.. When you have truly done that you will know the meaning and thrill of joy unspeakable. **(2). Now Consider His Work With Believers: He First Seals The Believer In Christ.** *"In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom whom after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise."* Eph.

1:13. When I was a boy on our farm I loved cattle and round up, and branding, and all that exciting stuff. Every new calf was branded with the seal that told all it was ours. *"The foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are His. And let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."* II Tim. 2:19. Do you bear the brand of a truly born again child of God? If so joy in the truth that He knows you personally. **(3). He Indwells The Believer:** *"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."* I Cor. 6:19 & 20. He is our guide to consult in every decision. He gives comfort, teaches the believer and obedience to Him results in thrilling growth. He knows all things and no secret can be kept from Him. Everywhere we go we take Him, and His response will be felt within. In this study I find **Five Sins That Can Be Committed Against Him: The first one is Lying To The Holy Ghost** *"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. We know the story. He sold a possession and had promised the money to God. He allowed Satan to change his promise and brought only a part of the amount promised to God. Because of the deception both he and his wife, who told the same lie, died on the spot. We believers must be careful what we say and do. We can put nothing over on God. Some pretend to be what they are not, and not all sold out to God. Some are half and half, undedicated, and refuse to give God their best. If so, don't be surprised when God brings chastisement on you. **The Second Sin Is Grieving The Holy Ghost:** *"And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."* Eph 4:30. Since He dwells within us he hears every word,

knows our every thought, and sees our every action. Beware of corrupt conversation, false stories, and using the Lord's name in vain. Avoid tale bearing, slander, gossip, evil talk, filthiness, and slang. Beware also bitterness, anger, jealousy, and rebellion, places you go, evil things you attend and joining the sinful crowd for wrong activity. The Holy Spirit inside of you is grieved when you do such things,. **Thirdly, You Can Quench Him:** *"Quench not the Spirit."* I Thess. 5:19. When He tries to lead, do you refuse? He shows you some sin, and you refuse to give it up. The Spirit whispers some surrender, and you won't make it. He calls for some surrender, and you won't make it. We need to constantly remember He dwells within, and you have no secrets from Him. He desires to lead you away from evil into a life of great joy, and daily victory. Remember you are never alone. You can fool men but you cannot fool God. He has such great plans for you. Don't thwart them by foolish refusal to obey. **Fourth, Do Not Blaspheme Him.** *"Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men."* Matt. 12:31. This warning is addressed to sinners who may belittle, ridicule, or continue to reject Christ. Include the profanity of the mouths of the devils crowd, and it matters what the sinner has to say about Christ. **Fifth, Resisting Or Driving Away The Holy Spirit:** *"And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man."* Gen. 6:3a. Walking away from the warnings of sermons, invitations and the Bible invitations for your salvation are gigantic sins. *"I calledye refused.....ye regarded not." "I counselled.....ye set at naught." "I reproved.....ye would have none of it."* Prov. 1: 24-25. Frightening words from Rom. 1:25 are clearly aimed at the unrepentant sinner. **"And God Gave Them Up."** I trust these Biblical warnings will help us believers also to treat the Holy Spirit better.