

Lesson 12

The Role of the Holy Spirit in Bible Research

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We need the Holy Spirit to assist us in all Bible research and study.

*“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, **He will guide you into all truth**; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.”*

John 16:13-15

I. Who is the Holy Spirit?

A. The Holy Spirit is God.

Because He is God all of the attributes of deity are His. When He is living in us, we realize the awesomeness of that which we have at our disposal.

“For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.”

I John 5:7

Divine names ascribed to the Holy Spirit:

1. The Spirit of God (I Pet. 4:14; Gen. 1:2; I Cor. 2:10-14)

If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.

2. The Spirit of Jesus (Acts 16:7 AMP)

And when they had come opposite Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them.

3. The Spirit of the Living God (II Cor. 3:3 AMP)

You show and make obvious that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, not written with ink but with [the] Spirit of [the] living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

4. The Spirit of the Father (Mt. 10:20).

for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.

The terms "Spirit of God" or "Spirit of the Lord" are used nearly seventy times in the Scripture in reference to the Holy Spirit.

B. The Holy Spirit is a person.

We can have intimate fellowship with the Holy Spirit, but we can also offend the Holy Spirit who dwells within us.

1. He speaks (II Sam. 23:2; **Acts 13:2**; I Tim. 4:1; Rev. 2:7, 11, 17, 29).
As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."
2. He searches all things (I Cor. 2:10b).
For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.
3. He reveals or inspires (II Pet. 1:21).
for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.
4. He teaches (John 14:26).
But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.
5. He cries (Gal. 4:6).
And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"
6. He intercedes (Rom. 8:26).
Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.
7. He calls and places men in service (Acts 13:2; 20:28).
As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

8. He leads (Rom. 8:14).
For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

9. He rules (Acts 16:6-7).
Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them.

10. He creates (Job 33:4).
The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

11. He sanctifies (Rom. 15:16; II Th. 2:13).
that I might be a minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering of the Gentiles might be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth

12. He helps (Rom. 8:26).
Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

13. He gives gifts (I Cor. 12:7-11).
But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

14. He works miracles (Acts 2:4; 8:39).
And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.

15. He bears witness (I John 5:6).

This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth.

16. He reproves (John 16:8-11).

And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they do not believe in Me; of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

17. He regenerates (John 3:5-6).

Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

18. He guides into truth (John 16:13).

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

19. He glorifies Christ (John 16:14).

He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.

20. He strives with men (Gen. 6:3).

And the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."

21. He sends (Is. 48:16).

"Come near to Me, hear this: I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; From the time that it was, I was there. And now the Lord GOD and His Spirit Have sent Me."

22. He directs men in service (**Acts 8:29**; 10:19; 16:6-7).

Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot."

23. He issues commands (Acts 16:6-7).

Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them.

24. He has fellowship or communion (II Cor. 13:14).

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

25. He speaks to the churches (**Rev. 2:7**, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22).

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

26. He comforts (John 14:26).

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

The Holy Spirit has personal feelings ascribed to Him. He can be:

1. Grieved (Eph. 4:30).

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

2. Vexed or Rebelled Against (Is. 63:10).

But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit; So He turned Himself against them as an enemy, And He fought against them.

3. Insulted (Heb. 10:29).

Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?

4. Lied to (Acts 5:3).

But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself?"

5. Blasphemed (Mt. 12:31-32).

Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.

6. Resisted (Acts 7:51).

You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you.

7. Put to the Test (Acts 5:9).

Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out."

8. Quenched (I Th. 5:19).

Do not quench the Spirit.

9. Provoked (Ps. 106:33).

Because they rebelled against His Spirit, So that he spoke rashly with his lips.

10. Pleased (Acts 15:28).

For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things

II. What are Some of the Roles of the Holy Spirit?

A. The Holy Spirit is our Comforter, Advocate and Helper.

We are not alone as we seek to fulfill God's plans and purpose for our lives. We have a helper. He is not far away. He is with us and is in us.

*"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever--the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, **for He dwells with you and will be in you.**"*

John 14:16-17

The Holy Spirit is within us. We do not have to go and search for Him. The Power of the Highest is within us. He is the "Greater" who is in us compared to the one who is in the world.

B. The Holy Spirit would like to produce His fruit in us (Gal. 5:22-23)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

As we yield to the power of the Holy Spirit within, we are transformed from glory to glory and we begin to take on the divine attributes of Jesus. The Holy Spirit is the one who is causing Christ to be formed in us.

C. The Holy Spirit is the power source for all that we do (Luke 4:14; Acts 1:8)

Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region.

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of power and might. Even though no human being has the power to do what God has designed for him to do, the Holy Spirit provides the power to do what man cannot do.

D. The Holy Spirit has given us supernatural gifts that can assist us in fulfilling our supernatural mission (1 Cor. 12:8-12)

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills. For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.

E. The Holy Spirit is responsible for establishing us as Christians.

1. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is part of the Christian's foundation and his or her "power from on high" (Acts 1:4-5, 8; 2:4).

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

Acts 1:8

2. The Holy Spirit fills the believer continually (Eph. 5:18).

And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord...

F. The Holy Spirit sets us free from the law of sin and death (Rom. 8:2, 13)

This enables the believer to put to death the deeds of the flesh.

For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

G. The Holy Spirit transforms us into the image of Christ (II Cor. 3:18).

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

H. The Holy Spirit renews the believer (Tit. 3:5).

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit...

I. The Holy Spirit strengthens the believer in the inner person (Eph. 3:14-16)

For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man...

J. The Holy Spirit speaks to the believer (Acts 8:29; I Tim. 4:1; Rev. 2:7, 11, 17, 29).

Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot."

K. The Holy Spirit leads the believer (Rom. 8:14; Gal 5:16, 25).

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

L. The Holy Spirit teaches the believer and leads him into truth (John 16:13; I John 2:27).

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

M. The Holy Spirit reveals the deep things of God to the believer (John 16:14; I Cor. 2:9-14).

But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. 13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

N. The Holy Spirit opens the believer's understanding to the things of God (I Cor. 2:12).

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

O. The Holy Spirit reveals the future to the believer (Luke 2:26; John 16:13; Acts 20:23; 21:11; Rev 1:10).

And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. Luke 2:25-26

When he had come to us, he took Paul's belt, bound his own hands and feet, and said, "Thus says the Holy Spirit, 'So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man who owns this belt, and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.'" Acts 21:11

P. The Holy Spirit helps and guides in prayer and intercession (Rom. 8:26-28; Eph. 6:18; Jude 20).

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Q. The Holy Spirit inspires the believer's worship (John 4:24; Phil. 3:3; I Cor. 14:15)

For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh...

R. The Holy Spirit edifies (John 15:26; Acts 9:31).

Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied.

S. The Holy Spirit seals the believer (Eph. 1:13; 4:30; II Cor. 1:21-22).

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

T. The Holy Spirit teaches how to answer persecutors (Mt. 10:19-20; Mark 13:11; Luke 12:11-12; Acts 4:8; 7:55).

But when they arrest you and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.

U. The Holy Spirit abides with us forever (John 14:16).

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—

III. How do we take full benefit of what is available to us through the Holy Spirit?

A. We must live our lives yielded to the inner voice of the Holy Spirit.

1. As He convicts us of sin (John 16:8-11).

And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they do not believe in Me; of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

2. As He leads us into truth (John 16:13).

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

3. As He purifies or sanctifies our soul (II Th. 2:13).

But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,

4. As He guides us in our daily lives (Gal. 5:25).

If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

5. As He prompts us to operate in the gifts of the Spirit (I Cor. 12:7-11).

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

B. We must ask for the assistance from the Holy Spirit.

We need his assistance when we:

1. Read the Bible (I Cor. 2:11-14).

For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man's

wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

2. Worship God (John 4:24; Phil 3:3).

God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

3. Pray for difficult situations (Rom. 8:26-27).

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

4. Share our faith (Acts 1:8).

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

5. Pray for and minister to the needy (Luke 4:18; Acts 10:38).

"THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE HAS ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR; HE HAS SENT ME TO HEAL THE BROKENHEARTED, TO PROCLAIM LIBERTY TO THE CAPTIVES AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET AT LIBERTY THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED"

how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

C. We must pursue a personal relationship with the Holy Spirit (II Cor. 13:14).

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

Relationships take work. Our relationship with the Holy Spirit is no different.

What are some pointers in building relationship with Him?

i. We must avoid those things which cause the Spirit grief (Eph. 4:30).

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

ii. We must consciously welcome the Holy Spirit into our daily life.

iii. We must continually be filled with the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18-20).

And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.