

HOLY SPIRIT

A BIBLICAL OVERVIEW

PART 1

Church of Christ in Moody
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HOLY SPIRIT: A BIBLICAL OVERVIEW

DATE	TOPIC	TEXT
1.5	1. Spirit as Divine Person	
1.8	2. The Trinity	John 16:12-15
1.12	3. The Spirit in Creation	Genesis 1
1.15	4. Empowered	Exodus 35, Judges 13-16, Luke 4-7
1.19	5. Anointed	Num. 11, 1 Samuel 10, 16, Mat 3
1.22	6. The Prophetic Spirit	1 Sam 10, 2 Samuel 23:2; Neh 9:30
1.26	7. Holy Spirit and Inspiration	2 Peter 1:21
1.29	8. Breath of Life	Genesis 2, Ezekiel 37, Romans 8:9-11
2.2	9. Born of the Spirit	John 3
2.5	10. Another Advocate: Part 1	John 14:15-31
2.9	11. Another Advocate, Part 2	John 15:18-16:15

1

SPIRIT AS A DIVINE PERSON

GOAL: Prove the Spirit is a Divine Person.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Draw a picture of the Spirit.

2. Jesus anticipates the coming of the Spirit when speaking to his disciples. What can you conclude about personhood of the Spirit based on John 16:12-15?

3. What do the activities in the following passages reveal about the personhood of the Spirit?
 - a. Romans 8:27

 - b. Acts 15:28

 - c. John 16:13

 - d. Nehemiah 9:20

 - e. Ephesians 4:30

4. What do the attributes of the Spirit in the following passages indicate about the Spirit's divinity?
 - a. Hebrews 9:14

 - b. 1 Corinthians 2:10-11

 - c. Psalm 139:7-10

 - d. Genesis 1:2

GOAL: Establish the Spirit's role in the Trinity.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Which divine persons are mentioned in the following passages?
 - a. Matthew 28:19
 - b. I Corinthians 12:4-6
 - c. 2 Corinthians 13:14
 - d. I Peter 1:2
 - e. Cf. Romans 15:30; II Corinthians 1:21-22; Ephesians 4:4-6, et al.
2. The Baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:13-17; cf. Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22; John 1:31-34) shows each member of the Trinity acting simultaneously. Describe what each member of the Godhead are doing in this event.
 - a. Jesus
 - b. Father
 - c. Spirit
3. What conclusions can you draw about the relationship between the Divine Persons from this event?
4. Can you think of one instance in Scripture in which the Spirit is worshipped?
5. Describe the role of the Spirit according to Jesus in John 16:12-15.

GOAL: Highlight the Spirit's creative work.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Who created the world?
 - a. Genesis 1:1
 - b. 1 Corinthians 8:4-6 (Isaiah 44:24)
 - c. John 1:1-5 (Colossians 1:15-17)

2. What is the Spirit's role in creation? Consult the following verses in the Genesis account.
 - a. Genesis 1:2
 - b. Genesis 1:26
 - c. Genesis 2:7

3. Proverbs 8:22-31 declares that Wisdom was with the Lord at creation. Which of the following best explains the identity of wisdom?
 - a. Wisdom is a personification intended to appeal to the reader to embrace wisdom.
 - b. Jesus is Wisdom
 - c. The Spirit is Wisdom

4. How does the Spirit continue his creative work?
 - a. Job 33:4
 - b. Psalm 104:30
 - c. Acts 17:25

GOAL: Show the Spirit as he empowers individuals with divine skill and abilities.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Which of the following details in the Tabernacle do you find most beautiful?
 - a. The Ark (Exodus 37:1-9)
 - b. The Lampstand (Exodus 37:17-24)
 - c. The Breastpiece (Exodus 39:8-21)
2. How was the Spirit involved in the construction of the Tabernacle (Exodus 35:30-35)?
3. What happened for Samson when the Spirit “rushed” on him in the following passages?
 - a. Judges 13:25
 - b. Judges 14:6
 - c. Judges 14:19
 - d. Judges 15:14
4. Jesus, reading from Isaiah, declares in Nazareth that he has been anointed by the Spirit. List the things this allows Jesus to accomplish in Luke 4:18-19.
5. How does Jesus’ response to John’s objection further illustrate the Spirit’s anointing in Luke 7:18-23?

GOAL: Trace the connection between the Spirit and leadership.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Put yourself in Moses sandals (Numbers 11:10-15). Would your complaint be similar if you were in his position?

2. How does God answer Moses (Numbers 11:16-17, 24-30)?

3. How are the anointings of Saul and David like the event in Numbers?
 - a. 1 Samuel 10:1-13

 - b. 1 Samuel 16:13-14

4. Jesus also claims to be anointed (Luke 4:18-19). Is the anointing the same as the anointing of the elders and kings?

5. Paul claims the Ephesians elders were also made overseers by the Spirit (Acts 20:28). Should we conclude from this text that all elders are empowered by the Spirit to lead?

GOAL: Connect the Spirit to prophecy.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is produced by the Spirit in each of the following verses?
 - a. Numbers 11:25-26
 - b. 1 Samuel 10:9-10
 - c. 2 Samuel 23:2
 - d. 1 Kings 22:24-28
 - e. Luke 1:41-42
 - f. Luke 1:67
 - g. Acts 2:4, 11
 - h. Acts 4:8
 - i. 2 Peter 1:21
2. Consult Deuteronomy 18:15-22 to write a short definition of prophecy. (cf. Neh 9:30)
3. How did God expect the people to respond to prophecy given through the Spirit? Trace the four reactions to prophetic claims in Deuteronomy 18:15-22.
 - a. 18:15
 - b. 18:19
 - c. 18:20
 - d. 18:22
4. How does this matter to me? Moses exhorted concerning the prophet like him that would arise, "It is to him you shall listen." The same phrase is declared of Jesus at the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-8; cf. Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36). How should Christians interpret the events on that mountain?

GOAL: Assert that the Scripture is produced by the Spirit.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Paul writes, “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable...” (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Unpack this verse. What does Paul mean by each phrase:
 - a. All Scripture

 - b. Breathed Out by God

2. David well illustrates the process of Inspiration. Read Psalm 16:8-11. Count how many times in this section David writes in the first-person singular (I, me, or my). Would it be reasonable to read this Psalm and conclude that David is speaking of his own deliverance?

3. Peter comments on this quotation as he preaches in Acts 2:24-31. According to Peter, what did David mean to communicate when he wrote this passage? Why did David write it?

4. Are the New Testament books also inspired? See John 16:12-15.

5. Paul also asserts that Scripture is profitable for teaching, reproof, correction, and training (2 Timothy 3:16-17). How should the Christian read Scripture with these things in mind?
 - a. Teaching

 - b. Reproof

 - c. Correction

 - d. Training

8

BREATH OF LIFE

GOAL: Prove that the Spirit is necessary for life and resurrection.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Genesis 2:7 describes the creation of man. If you were to break this process down into steps, what was required for than man to become a living being?
2. In the valley of dry bone, Ezekiel witnesses the resurrection of an army (Ezekiel 37:1-14). How is this process (37:7-10) like the creation of Adam?
3. According to Romans 8:9-11, by what power was Jesus raised from the dead?
4. By what power do we have the hope of resurrection? (Cf. Romans 8:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:42-49)

GOAL: Understand Jesus' words to Nicodemus in John 3.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Based on the introduction John offers (John 3:1), what could you assume about Nicodemus?

2. Jesus expects Nicodemus to understand, because he is a teacher of Israel. He should connect Jesus' words to its prophetic context in Ezekiel. Use the chart below to map the comparisons.

Ezekiel	Theme	John
36:25		3:5
36:26		3:3
37:9-10		3:8
37:11		3:3

3. We have the benefit of reading John's prologue for better context. How might John 1:12-13 have helped explain what it means to be born again?

4. Nicodemus was obviously confused, but had he understood he may also have been surprised. Why is it surprising that Jesus would tell Nicodemus that he must be born again?

GOAL: Outline the promises Jesus made concerning the Spirit in John 14-16.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Jesus has made it clear that he will be leaving (John 13:33). Put your feet in the apostles' sandals. What concerns do you have for your first day without Jesus?

2. Read Jesus' words in the following verses. What affect do you suppose Jesus hoped these statements would have on the disciples?
 - a. 15:18
 - b. 15:27
 - c. 15:28
 - d. 12:29

3. Nothing is meant to give more assurance to the apostles than the promise of the Spirit. Jesus describes him as "another Helper" (14:16). The word Jesus chooses is a little hard to translate. Consult the following translations to find the alternate renderings:
 - a. ESV, NASB, NKJV:

 - b. NLT, NIV:

 - c. KJV:

4. What promises about the Spirit (14:15-31) would give the apostles comfort?

5. Jesus promises the Spirit will "dwell with you and be with you" (14:17). How do the following statements clarify the meaning of this promise?
 - a. 14:20-21
 - b. 14:23-24
 - c. 15:5-7
 - d. 15:10
 - e. 1 John 2:3-6

6. How are these same promises comforting to all future generations of Christians?

GOAL: Outline the promises Jesus made concerning the Spirit in John 14-16.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Jesus has made it clear that he will be leaving (John 13:33). He has taken pains to encourage his disciples for what is to come next. Put yourself in the disciples' sandals when you read 15:18-16:4; what thoughts or concerns would you have?
 - a. 16:1
 - b. 16:2 (9:22; 12:42)
 - c. 16:4
 - d. 16:6
2. Jesus is acting like a lawyer. Outline his case against the world (15:22-25).
3. Jesus maintains a legal vocabulary when describing the Spirit. What do the following verses reveal about how the Spirit will continue the case against the world?
 - a. 15:26
 - b. 16:7
 - c. 16:8
4. "This is going to be better, really," Jesus seems to argue (16:7). From what Jesus has said about the Spirit, how are the disciples better off?