

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Table of Contents

<i>Introduction.....</i>	<i>2</i>
DEFINITIONS OF SPIRIT	3
<i>DIVINITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT</i>	<i>6</i>
Interchangeability of God and the Holy Spirit in Scripture.....	7
Holy Spirit Possesses Attributes And Qualities of God	11
Holy Spirit Performs Works Ascribed To God.	14
Creation	14
Resurrection	15
Sanctification	16
Justification	16
Salvation	16
Prophecy	16
Inspiration of Scripture.....	17
Illumination of Scriptures.....	17
Obedience To The Scriptures	18
Messianic Anointing & Guidance.....	18
Working With and Through His People.....	19
Holy Spirit: Equal With The Father And Son.	20
The Spirit of God is God.	20
Unity of the Spirit	22
<i>THE PERSONALITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.....</i>	<i>25</i>
Use of The Masculine Pronoun HE.....	25
Personal Identification of Work.....	26
Holy Spirit Linked With The Father and The Son.....	27
Baptismal Formula	27
Baptism of Jesus	27
Glorification	28
Benedictions	28
Relationship With God's People.....	29
Passive Personal Traits	33
We Can Lie To The Spirit.....	33
We Can Grieve The Spirit	33
We Can Quench The Spirit.....	33
We Can Resist The Holy Spirit.....	33
We Can Blaspheme The Holy Spirit	34
<i>Summary.....</i>	<i>34</i>
The Holy Spirit is a Person.	34
The Holy Spirit is God.....	34
The Holy Spirit is One With The Father and Son.	34
The Holy Spirit Indwells Born Again Believers.....	35

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Introduction

The question of whom and what is God has plagued and pondered mankind from the beginning. Has God truly revealed Himself to mankind? If so, by what means can we, with absolute clarity, come to know this?

This study will focus upon the biblical teaching concerning God the Holy Spirit as revealed in both Old and New Testaments. Let's begin with a brief discussion of some basic biblical precepts. First, the Holy Bible is the divine revelation of God in its original languages. The 39 books that comprise the Old Covenant is written in Hebrew except for parts of Daniel, Ezra and Jeremiah (Aramaic) and the 27 books of the New Covenant is wholly written in Greek. These 66 books represent the entirety of the canon of scripture and is the only books that can, with absolute clarity, represent the divinely inspired, God breathed, infallible word of God. As such, the bible is absolute in its validity and reliability for mankind to come to know and understand what God has revealed to man about Himself. While we cannot fully comprehend the totality of God as a finite being, we can come to know those qualities and aspects of God that He has given for us to know.

Perfect or complete knowledge of God is unattainable by man upon this earth.

Job 11:7-9

- 7 "Can you search out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limits of the Almighty?
- 8 They are higher than heaven-- what can you do? Deeper than Sheol-- what can you know?
- 9 Their measure is longer than the earth and broader than the sea.

Job 36:26

"Behold, God is great, and we do not know Him; nor can the number of His years be discovered.

Rom 11:33

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!

Job 21:14-15

- 14 Yet they say to God, 'Depart from us, for we do not desire the knowledge of Your ways.
- 15 Who is the Almighty, that we should serve Him? And what profit do we have if we pray to Him?'

Notwithstanding, it is equally true that God has revealed himself to man, and that *sufficient* knowledge of God, though limited in measure, is put within the reach of all humanity. An essential distinction needs to be made between partial knowledge and

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

perfect knowledge of God. *We cannot perfectly comprehend God, and yet we can truly know Him.*

Rom 1:19-21

- 19 because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.
- 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,
- 21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

The above scripture also attests to the fact that there is an innate quality in all human beings to have some knowledge of God. There is a natural conviction in all humans that there is a Being upon whom they are dependent and to whom they are accountable.

DEFINITIONS OF SPIRIT

This section will be kept very brief, though it must be addressed at least in it's most rudimentary form. There is a spirit in man that governs the operations of man.

1 Corinthians 2:11

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.**

The words translated as spirit in the New Testament is πνευμα pneuma (*pn̄yoo'-mah*) The same word is used whether speaking about the Spirit of God, the spirit of man, the spirit of Satan, evil or demonic spirits.

4151 πνευμα pneuma pn̄yoo'-mah

from **4154**; TDNT-6:332,876; n n ; *wind, spirit*:—

NAS-breath (3), Spirit (239), spirit (103), spirits (32), spiritual (1), wind (1), winds (1).

AV-Spirit 111, (Holy) Ghost 89, Spirit (of God) 13, Spirit (of the Lord) 5, (My) Spirit 3, Spirit (of truth) 3, Spirit (of Christ) 2, human (spirit) 49, (evil) spirit 47, spirit (general) 26, spirit 8, (Jesus' own) spirit 6, (Jesus' own) ghost 2, misc 21; 385

1) the third person of the triune God, the Holy Spirit, coequal, coeternal with the Father and the Son

1a) sometimes referred to in a way which emphasises his personality and character (the **Holy Spirit**)

1b) sometimes referred to in a way which emphasises his work and power (the Spirit of **Truth**)

1c) never referred to as a de-personalized force

2) the spirit, i.e. the vital principal by which the body is animated

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

- 2a) the rational spirit, the power by which the human being feels, thinks, decides
 - 2b) the soul
 - 3) a spirit, i.e. a simple essence, devoid of all or at least all grosser matter, and possessed of the power of knowing, desiring, deciding, and acting
 - 3a) a life giving spirit
 - 3b) a human soul that has left the body
 - 3c) a spirit higher than man but lower than God, i.e. an angel
 - 3c1) used of demons, or evil spirits, who were conceived as inhabiting the bodies of men
 - 3c2) the spiritual nature of Christ, higher than the highest angels and equal to God, the divine nature of Christ
 - 4) the disposition or influence which fills and governs the soul of any one
 - 4a) the efficient source of any power, affection, emotion, desire, etc.
 - 5) a movement of air (a gentle blast)
 - 5a) of the wind, hence the wind itself
 - 5b) breath of nostrils or mouth
- For Synonyms see entry [5923](#)

Jesus teaches on the Holy Spirit. In the gospel of John, chapter 3 records a conversation Jesus has with Nicodemus, a Jewish leader.

John 3:8

"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."

In this verse Jesus is equating the Spirit of God with the blowing of the wind. We see the *effects* of the wind ... blowing leaves, bent trees and bushes, dust and debris kicked into the air ... though the wind itself remains invisible. We *hear* the sounds of the wind as it blows upon our ears and the sound it makes as it comes into contact with stationary objects (whistling sounds) non stationary objects (rustling noises) though the wind itself is powerful and invisible as it moves about. We can even *feel* the wind as it blows by ... but, the wind itself remains somewhat of a mystery from a *sensory* perspective.

In the Old Covenant we see a slightly different approach to spirit. The Hebrew equated more of the workings of the Spirit with breath, an essential component of life, the soul. The Hebrew word most frequently used is רוח *ruwach* (*roo'-akh*). The Greek equivalent of the Hebrew *Ruwach* is ψυχη *psuche* (*psoo-khay'*) *Psuche* is also used in the New Covenant but to a lesser extent than in the Old.

The study in similarities and contrasts between the Old and New Covenants concerning the soul and spirit is a fascinating study indeed, for both renderings truthfully add to understanding and reveal this mystery of God. However, we will not develop that study here.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

07307 רוּחַ ruwach roo'-akh

from an unused word and from 07306; TWOT-2131a; n f ; *breath, wind, spirit*:—

NAS—air (2), anger (1), blast (2), breath (31), breathless* (1), cool (1), courage (1), despondency* (1), exposed (1), grief* (1), heart (1), inspired (1), mind (3), motives (1), points (1), quick-tempered* (1), side (4), sides (2), Spirit (76), spirit (127), spirits (3), strength (1), temper (2), thoughts* (1), trustworthy* (1), wind (98), winds (7), windy (2), wrath (1).

AV—Spirit or spirit 232, wind 92, breath 27, side 6, mind 5, blast 4, vain 2, air 1, anger 1, cool 1, courage 1, misc 6; 378

1) wind, breath, mind, spirit

1a) breath

1b) wind

1b1) of heaven

1b2) quarter (of wind), side

1b3) breath of air

1b4) air, gas

1b5) vain, empty thing

1c) spirit (as that which breathes quickly in animation or agitation)

1c1) spirit, animation, vivacity, vigour

1c2) courage

1c3) temper, anger

1c4) impatience, patience

1c5) spirit, disposition (as troubled, bitter, discontented)

1c6) disposition (of various kinds), unaccountable or uncontrollable impulse

1c7) prophetic spirit

1d) spirit (of the living, breathing being in man and animals)

1d1) as gift, preserved by God, God's spirit, departing at death, disembodied being

1e) spirit (as seat of emotion)

1e1) desire

1e2) sorrow, trouble

1f) spirit

1f1) as seat or organ of mental acts

1f2) rarely of the will

1f3) as seat especially of moral character

1g) Spirit of God, the third person of the triune God, the Holy Spirit, coequal, coeternal with the Father and the Son

1g1) as inspiring ecstatic state of prophecy

1g2) as impelling prophet to utter instruction or warning

1g3) imparting warlike energy and executive and administrative power

1g4) as endowing men with various gifts

1g5) as energy of life

1g6) as manifest in the Shekinah glory

1g7) never referred to as a depersonalised force

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

5590 ψυχη *psuche psoo-khay'*

from 5594; TDNT-9:608,1342; n f breath, the soul:—

NAS-heart (2), heartily (1), life (36), lives (7), mind (1), minds (1), person (1), persons (3), soul (33), souls (14), suspense* (1), thing (1).

AV-soul 58, life 40, mind 3, heart 1, heartily + 1537 1, not tr 2; 105

1) breath

1a) the breath of life

1a1) the vital force which animates the body and shows itself in breathing

1a1a) of animals

1a1b) of men

1b) life

1c) that in which there is life

1c1) a living being, a living soul

2) the soul

2a) the seat of the feelings, desires, affections, aversions (our heart, soul etc.)

2b) the (human) soul in so far as it is constituted that by the right use of the aids offered it by God it can attain its highest end and secure eternal blessedness, the soul regarded as a moral being designed for everlasting life

2c) the soul as an essence which differs from the body and is not dissolved by death (distinguished from other parts of the body)

Does the Bible Reveal The Holy Spirit as God?

DIVINITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

On this subject there has historically been little dispute in the church, the body of Christ, concerning the deity of the Holy Spirit. There is a growing number of people claiming that the terms *Deity* and *Divinity* does not necessarily mean that it's God. Huh? These terms absolutely refer to qualities associated with God. In order to introduce their attack upon the nature of God as revealed in Scripture, a re-definition of words is always a first order of business in an attempt to create the "crack" needed for heresy to seep in. The shocking and widespread increase in apostate and cultic groups claiming the name Christianity yet reject all that is Christian is alarming. These false groups introduce, disguise and integrate man made philosophies, destructive heresies, polytheism, pantheism, agnosticism, atheism and most other ism's in their attempt to reject the Deity of Jesus and the Deity of the Holy Spirit as God. There are many other such heresies, but these two lead the list.

The Spirit is prominently presented in both New and Old Covenants of the Bible as possessing the Divine attributes of God, and exercising Divine prerogatives of God. Since the advent of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, the True Divinity of the Holy Spirit as God has never been denied by those who admit His personality.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Interchangeability of God and the Holy Spirit in Scripture

Let's begin our study with an evaluation of the story of Ananias and Sapphira as recorded in Acts 5. The couple had sold property and lied about giving the *full* proceeds of the transaction as a donation. In fact, they only donated a portion of the proceeds and kept the rest for themselves. While there is no sin associated with how much they gave or kept for themselves, *lying* about it was absolutely a sin. It appeared they were more concerned with a public and boastful display of apparent generosity, that with a sincere and joyful giving to the Lord.

Acts 5:3

But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to **lie to the Holy Spirit** and to keep back [some] of the price of the land?

Peter is rebuking Ananias for lying to the Holy Spirit. **We can only lie to a living being!** We cannot lie to some inanimate power, force, manifestation, office or any other concept, object or thing that cults and apostate groups claim to be the Holy Spirit. Let's take a look at the very next verse.

Acts 5:4

"While it remained [unsold,] did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? **You have not lied to men but to God.**"

Peter is equating lying to the Holy Spirit as lying to God. These two expressions are interchangeable. Interchangeability is equated with full equality. If you lie to the Holy Spirit you are in fact lying to God. Notice Peter did not say, "You lied to me" though he was the person being addressed. The intent of Peter is to let Ananias and all those who come to know of this event that the lie was directed to God and not to humans. The repeat of this in verse 4 is to re-emphasize that which was stated in verse three ... **lying to the Holy Spirit is lying to God.**

Let's go to an Old Testament example of the interchangeability of LORD - Yahweh, and Yehovah with the Spirit. The expressions, Yehovah said, and the Spirit said, are often interchanged ... the acts of the Spirit are said to be acts of God ... and to rebel against the Spirit is to rebel against God.

Psalms 106:33

Because they were **rebellious against His Spirit**, He spoke rashly with his lips.

Deuteronomy 9:7

¶ "Remember, do not forget how you provoked the LORD your God to wrath in the wilderness; from the day that you left the land of Egypt until you arrived at this place, you have been **rebellious against the LORD.**

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

The Holy Spirit speaking to and through the prophets is the same as the LORD God speaking to and through the prophets. True Prophets speak for the LORD.

2 Peter 1:21

for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men **moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.**

Numbers 12:6

He said, "Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, **I, the LORD, shall make Myself known to him** in a vision. I shall speak with him in a dream.

1 Samuel 10:10

When they came to the hill there, behold, a group of prophets met him; and the **Spirit of God came upon him mightily**, so that he prophesied among them.

In the next two verses we see the interchangeability of the prophets delivering a message to the people by the Holy Spirit and also by direct command of the LORD.

Nehemiah 9:30

"However, You bore with them for many years, And **admonished them by Your Spirit through Your prophets**, Yet they would not give ear. Therefore You gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands.

Jeremiah 26:8

When **Jeremiah finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded [him] to speak to all the people**, the priests and the prophets and all the people seized him, saying, "You must die!

Prophecy is a miraculous act of God accomplished through the LORD (Jesus, the 2nd person of the Triune, God the Son) and the Holy Spirit (the 3rd person of the Triune God) as directed by The Father, the 1st person of the Triune. The Godhead is so intimately close and connected that the acts of one may also be viewed as the actions of the others. (See *God The Triune* <http://www.thelordschildren.org/triune.htm> and *Theology 101: Nature of God* <http://www.thelordschildren.org/naturegod.htm>).

The Apostle Paul is totally comfortable with the interchangeability of the terms for God and the Holy Spirit. Let's take a look at some Scriptures where this occurs.

Acts 28:25-26

- 25 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
- 26 saying, 'GO TO THIS PEOPLE AND SAY, "YOU WILL KEEP ON HEARING, BUT WILL NOT UNDERSTAND; AND YOU WILL KEEP ON SEEING, BUT WILL NOT PERCEIVE;

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Isaiah 6:8-9

- 8 Then **I heard the voice of the Lord**, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!"
- 9 ¶ **He said, "Go, and tell this people:** 'Keep on listening, but do not perceive; Keep on looking, but do not understand.'

Paul states the Holy Spirit spoke and the verse in Isaiah says the Lord spoke. Let's continue with more comparative Scriptures to illustrate the point

Hebrews 10:15-16

- 15 And **the Holy Spirit also testifies** to us; for after saying,
16 "THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THEM AFTER THOSE DAYS, **SAYS THE LORD:** I WILL PUT MY LAWS UPON THEIR HEART, AND ON THEIR MIND I WILL WRITE THEM," He then says,

Paul is quoting Jeremiah 31...

Jeremiah 31:31,33

- 31 "Behold, days are coming," **declares the LORD**, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,
33 "But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days," **declares the LORD**, "I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

The Apostle Paul clearly understands that the interchangeability of God, LORD and Lord with the Holy Spirit is perfectly suitable for there is ONE God who exists in three personhoods as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. These are not to be understood as roles, offices, manifestations or other cultic attempts at denying the Divine Three-in -One Unity of God, the Triune.

The prophets were the agents of God upon the earth. To those whom they were delivering their messages to, they in type were gods themselves. Let's see how God illustrates this with His prophet Moses.

Exodus 7:1

- ¶ Then the LORD said to Moses, "See, I make you [as] God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet.

Unlike how the movie *The Ten Commandments* relates the story, Moses was not the one who actually spoke to Pharaoh. Aaron did the talking due to a speech dysfunction of Moses. Truth and fact is not quite the style of Hollywood, so please don't use them as your doctrinal guide of the bible.

Cults, heretics and non Christian groups like Jehovah Witnesses, Mormons/Latter day Saints, Word Faith movement along with other fringe groups have a field day with perverting scriptures that demonstrate the image and likeness of God in man, or a

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

special duty of selected men and women God ordains for a special purpose to mean something other than what God is communicating. Let no one deceive you with heresies and lies that say as you are a "little god" or your destiny is to become a god as God is God or even to become a "lesser god." Believing such nonsense could very well put you on a highway to hell. I think it amazing how the above mentioned groups and philosophies will deny God as God, yet claim that man is or will be God. How pitiful and utterly dysfunctional some groups can be. (See bible study entitled, *Heresy: Man's Destiny is to Become God?* <http://www.thelordschildren.org/gods.htm> in The Lord's Children website)

One final set of comparative Scriptures where God and the Holy Spirit are used interchangeably is in First Corinthians where Paul discusses the Christian body.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

16 ¶ Do you not know that you are a **temple of God** and that the **Spirit of God dwells in you?**

17 If any man destroys the **temple of God**, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are.

Compare the above verses with chapter 6.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

19 Or do you not know that your body is a **temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you**, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

20 For you have been bought with a price: therefore **glorify God in your body**.

Almost identical language is used to illustrate that the Christian's body is the temple of God and the temple of the Holy Spirit. Again the interchangeability between God and the Holy Spirit very strongly suggests equality. An indwelling of the Holy Spirit is an indwelling of God.

In Romans 8:9-11, the indwelling of Christ is said to be the indwelling of the Spirit of God and also the Spirit of Christ.

Romans 8:9-11

9 However, you are not in the flesh but in the **Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you**. But if anyone does not have the **Spirit of Christ**, he does not belong to Him.

10 ¶ If **Christ is in you**, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness.

11 But if the **Spirit of Him** who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, **He who raised Christ Jesus** from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies **through His Spirit who dwells in you**.

The above verses speak to each member of the Triune God indwelling born again believers, yet there is One Spirit indwelling man. Verse 11 says the Holy Spirit

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

resurrected Jesus from the dead. Does the bible reveal anyone else resurrecting the dead?

John 5:21

"For just as **the Father raises the dead** and gives them life, even so **the Son also gives life** to whom He wishes.

John 6:40

"For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and **I Myself will raise him up on the last day.**"

Romans 8:11

But if the **Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead** dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies **through His Spirit** who dwells in you.

1 Corinthians 6:14

Now God has not only raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power.

There we have it! The fullness of the Triune God will resurrect us to Life! God the Father, Jesus Christ, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are all involved in resurrecting the dead. There are substantial Scriptures that speak to each member of the Triune God raising the dead, those in Christ with an indwelling of His Holy Spirit are raised to Eternal Life, and those who have no Holy Spirit indwelling them are raised to Eternal Death at the Great White Throne Judgment.

Holy Spirit Possesses Attributes And Qualities of God

The first quality we will examine is that of **Omniscience** - All Knowing

1 Corinthians 2:10-11

11 For to us **God revealed them through the Spirit**; for the **Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.**

12 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.**

John 16:13

"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.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

The consciousness of God is the consciousness of the Spirit. The Spirit reveals the deepest secrets of God to those who seek Him in spirit and truth.

The Holy Spirit is **Omnipotence** - All powerful

Luke 1:35

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.

I'd say the Virgin Birth of Jesus is quite a testimony to the power of God the Holy Spirit. Notice that the Holy Spirit and the power of the Most High is in synonymous or parallel construction. The cults contend that the Son of God is the evidence that Jesus is a lesser being and not God become flesh as John 1:1, 2 and 14 establish. Jesus eternally existed as the Word, the 2nd person of the Triune. He was always Son and the 1st person of the Triune was always Father. This describes an eternal relationship, and the miraculous *virgin birth*, not a beginning of existence. Please note the next Scripture.

Romans 1:4

who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord,

Jesus is declared the Son of God by the Holy Spirit because of the miraculous Resurrection from the Dead. The term Son of God is God.

1 John 5:20

And we know that the **Son of God has come**, and has given us understanding so that **we may know Him who is true**; and we are **in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God** and eternal life.

The Virgin Birth and Resurrection is the miraculous beginning and end of the Messiah's earthly ministry. Miracles is the evidence and testimony of the Deity of Jesus. (see the bible study, *Jesus is God*, in the topical studies section of The Lord's Children Fellowship website)

The Holy Spirit is **Omnipresent** - Everywhere is within God

Psalms 139:7

¶ **Where can I go from Your Spirit?** Or **where can I flee from Your presence?**

The Holy Spirit is **Eternal** - The everlasting, without beginning or end

Hebrews 9:14

how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the **eternal Spirit** offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

The Holy Spirit is called **Creator** - Only God is Creator.

Job 33:4

"The **Spirit of God has made me**, And the **breath** of the Almighty gives me life.

The Holy Spirit performs **Miracles**.

Romans 15:19

in the power of signs and wonders, in the power of the Spirit; so that from Jerusalem and round about as far as Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.

The Holy Spirit **changes hearts**, **convicts** and **regenerates** (spiritual birth - born again)

John 16:8-11

- 8 "And He, when **He comes**, will **convict the world concerning sin** and **righteousness** and **judgment**;
9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me;
10 and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me;
11 and concerning **judgment**, because the ruler of this world has been judged.

John 14:17

[that is] the **Spirit of truth**, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, [but] **you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you**.

John 3:5-7

- 5 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**.
6 "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and **that which is born of the Spirit is spirit**.
7 "Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'

Zechariah 12:10

"I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the **Spirit of grace** and of **supplication**, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn.

This is God's inspired teaching on the ministry of God the Holy Spirit. The ministry of the Spirit is so powerful and holy that blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven now or in the age to come.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Matthew 12:31-32

- 31 "Therefore I say to you, any sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven people, but **blasphemy against the Spirit shall not be forgiven.**
- 32 "Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man, it shall be forgiven him; but whoever **speaks against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the [age] to come.**

The unpardonable sin, then, is speaking against the Holy Spirit. How could this be so unless the Holy Spirit were God? His intimate knowledge of God is present because the Holy Spirit is one with God ... distinct, not separate.

Holy Spirit Performs Works Ascribed To God.

Creation

Genesis 1:2

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.**

Job 26:13

"By His breath the heavens are cleared; His hand has pierced the fleeing serpent.

When we see scriptures speaking about the wind and breath of God, this is often referring to God the Holy Spirit or the works of God the Holy Spirit. Breath is predominately used in the Old Covenant to represent the workings of God, the Holy Spirit. The context of the passage determines its usage. Sometimes the wind means the physical process of air in motion, and sometimes it's being used to reference the working of God, the Holy Spirit. The same is true for breath. Breath will mean the human process of the movement of air as it is inhaled and exhaled or it can be used to mean the workings of God. Again, the context of the passages will determine its meaning and application. The above passage in Job is referring to the workings of God, the Holy Spirit.

Psalms 104:30

You send forth **Your Spirit, they are created;** And You renew the face of the ground.

In the above passage, David understands the You to mean God the Father and Your Spirit to mean God the Holy Spirit. The fullness of the Trinity is involved in Creation. The they in the above passage refers to the full creative workings of God that began in verse 24.

Zechariah 4:6

Then he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel saying, 'Not by might nor by power, **but by My Spirit,**' says the LORD of hosts.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

God declares He performs by God the Holy Spirit. We see it is God the Holy Spirit that is responsible for bringing about the Virgin Birth of our Messiah Jesus, the Christ. Mary was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 1:18

¶ 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**.

Isaiah 11:2

The **Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him**, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

Resurrection

Romans 8:11

But if the **Spirit of Him who raised Jesus** from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead **will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you**.

Regeneration - Born Again

John 3:5-8

- 5 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**.
- 6 "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and **that which is born of the Spirit is spirit**.
- 7 "Do not be amazed that I said to you, '**You must be born again**.'
- 8 "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 6:63

"It is the **Spirit who gives life**; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.

Ephesians 4:23

and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Sanctification

1 Peter 1:2

according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, **by the sanctifying work of the Spirit**, to obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood: May grace and peace be yours in the fullest measure.

Romans 15:16

to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering as a priest the gospel of God, so that [my] offering of the Gentiles may become acceptable, **sanctified by the Holy Spirit**.

Justification

1 Corinthians 6:11

Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were **sanctified**, but you were **justified** in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and **in the Spirit of our God**.

Salvation

2 Thessalonians 2:13

¶ But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because **God has chosen you** from the beginning for **salvation through sanctification by the Spirit** and faith in the truth.

Ephesians 1:13

In Him you also [trusted], after you heard the word of truth, the **gospel of your salvation**; in whom also, having believed, you were **sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise**,

Titus 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**,

Prophecy

2 Peter 1:20-21

20 Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation.

21 For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men **spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit**.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Micah 3:8

¶ On the other hand **I am filled with power— With the Spirit of the LORD—**
And with justice and courage **To make known to Jacob his rebellious act,**
Even to Israel his sin.

Zechariah 7:12

"They made their hearts [like] flint so that they could not hear the law and the words which the **LORD of hosts had sent by His Spirit through the former prophets**; therefore great wrath came from the LORD of hosts.

Revelation 1:19

"Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which are,
and the things which will take place after these things.

1 Timothy 4:1

¶ Now **the Spirit expressly says** that in latter times **some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons**,

Inspiration of Scripture

2 Timothy 3:16 (NIV)

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting
and training in righteousness,

Ezekiel 2:2

As He spoke to me **the Spirit entered me** and set me on my feet; **and I heard [Him] speaking to me.**

Illumination of Scriptures

John 16:13

"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.

Proverbs 1:23

"Turn to my reproof, Behold, **I will pour out my spirit on you; I will make my words known to you.**

Ephesians 1:17

that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may **give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him.**

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Obedience To The Scriptures

Ephesians 4:1-3

- 1 ¶ Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to **walk in a manner worthy of the calling** with which you have been called,
- 2 ¶ with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love,
- 3 **being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit** in the bond of peace.

Ezekiel 36:27

"I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be **careful to observe My ordinances.**

John 3:34

"For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for **God does not give the Spirit by measure.**

1 Peter 1:22

Since you have purified your souls in **obeying the truth through the Spirit** in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,

1 Peter 4:6

For this reason the gospel was preached also to those who are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, **but live according to God in the spirit.**

Messianic Anointing & Guidance

Luke 4:18

"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;

Acts 10:38

"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.

Luke 3:22

And the **Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him**, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased."

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Luke 4:1

¶ Then **Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit**, returned from the Jordan and was **led by the Spirit into the wilderness**,

Working With and Through His People

Psalms 143:10

Teach me to do Your will, For You are my God; **Let Your good Spirit lead me** on level ground.

Nehemiah 9:30

"However, You bore with them for many years, And **admonished** them by **Your Spirit through Your prophets**, Yet they would not give ear. Therefore You gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands.

Isaiah 63:14

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.

Ezekiel 11:5

Then the **Spirit of the LORD fell upon me**, and He said to me, "Say, 'Thus says the LORD, "So you think, house of Israel, for I know your thoughts.

Matthew 10:20

"For it is not you who speak, but [it is] the **Spirit of your Father who speaks** in you.

Luke 4:14

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

Luke 12:12

for the **Holy Spirit will teach you** in that very hour what you ought to say."

Acts 8:39

When they came up out of the water, the **Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away**; and the eunuch no longer saw him, but went on his way rejoicing.

John 14:17

"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 15:26

¶ "But when the **Helper** comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, **the Spirit of truth** who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Acts 15:8

"So **God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy Spirit**, just as [He did] to us,

Romans 8:1

¶ There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, **who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit**.

1 Corinthians 2:10-15

10 For to us **God revealed them through the Spirit**; for the **Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God**.

11 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**.

12 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**,

13 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.

14 But a **natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them**, because they are spiritually appraised.

15 But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet **he himself is appraised by no one**.

Holy Spirit: Equal With The Father And Son.

The Spirit of God is God.

Whenever the Spirit of God, the Spirit of the Lord, the Spirit of Christ is used, it is referring to the apparent equality with the specified person of the Godhead it refers to. This is referring to the ONE SPIRIT existent in the unity and intimacy of the Godhead. The inspired word of God demonstrates that the Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of Jesus, the Spirit of the Father, the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God as ONE SPIRIT not different spirits. That demonstrates distinctiveness, intimacy and unity, though the cults would have you believe it means separateness, which it does not. The Spirit of God is God, the Spirit of Christ is God, the Holy Spirit is God, the Spirit of Jesus is God. The Triune Godhead is ONE, all being EQUAL in essence, distinct yet intimately joined in function. The intimate relationship within the Triune allows the interchangeability of terms and functions for they all represent the ONE TRUE TRIUNE GOD.

One of the best examples is in the baptismal formula.

Matthew 28:19

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the **name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit**,

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

We do not baptize in the name of a manifestation of God or some other deviant doctrine, but in the name of God. The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit is the name of the one God. God goes by many names (see the bible study, *The Names of God*, <http://www.thelordschildren.org/names.htm> at The Lord's Children website).

Another example of the Holy Spirit being equal with God the Father and Jesus Christ, the Son is rendered by the Apostle Paul in his second letter to the Corinthians.

2 Corinthians 13:14

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

Paul also binds together as one the Triune God in his discussion of the spiritual gifts in his first letter to the Corinthians.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but **the same Spirit**.

5 And there are varieties of ministries, and **the same Lord**.

6 There are varieties of effects, but **the same God** who works all things in all persons.

Distinctiveness does not mean separateness. Paul ties all the gifts, ministries and effects into the workings of ONE TRIUNE GOD.

Romans 8:9

However, you are not in the flesh but **in the Spirit**, if indeed the **Spirit of God dwells in you**. But if anyone does not have **the Spirit of Christ**, he does not belong to Him.

The Apostle Peter does very much the same thing as Paul in his letters.

1 Peter 1:2

according to the **foreknowledge of God the Father**, by the **sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ** and be sprinkled with His blood: May grace and peace be yours in the fullest measure.

The above Scriptures in Romans and Peter is another such example of the Equality and Unity of the Triune God. Paul shows how the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is equal to and interchangeable with the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ indwelling the believer. There is only ONE SPIRIT that indwells the believer, the Holy Spirit. Peter also shows the equality the working of the Triune God

1 Corinthians 12:13

For **by one Spirit** we were all **baptized into one body**, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were **all made to drink of one Spirit**.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Unity of the Spirit

There is clearly only ONE Spirit from God that indwells the believer and that Spirit is God indwelling the believer.

1 Corinthians 3:16

¶ Do you not know that you are a temple of God and [that] the **Spirit of God dwells in you?**

The Spirit of God that dwells in us is the promised Helper, the Holy Spirit sent by Jesus and the Father. The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to teach us about God and all spiritual matters, to testify to us that Jesus is God our Lord and Savior, to help us recall and remember the teachings of God, to lead us to Jesus, to convict us when we drift away from the Lord, and to turn from sin and toward God.

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 that I said to you.

John 15:26

¶ "When the **Helper** comes, whom **I will send to you from the Father**, [that is] the **Spirit of truth** who **proceeds from the Father**, He will testify about Me,

Two excellent verses that teach God is Triune. The Holy Spirit is sent by the Father and He is sent by Jesus. This demonstrates the unity and oneness of the Triune God. Let's follow up with Scriptures that demonstrate the Father speaks in us as does Jesus when we are indwelt by God the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 10:20

"For it is not you who speak, but [it is] the **Spirit of your Father** who **speaks in you**.

Colossians 1:27

to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is **Christ in you**, the hope of glory.

Romans 8:2

For the law of the **Spirit of life in Christ Jesus** has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

Acts 16:7

and after they came to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the **Spirit of Jesus** did not permit them;

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

This unity of the Spirit allows us to come to know God the Father as revealed through Jesus Christ. Without the Holy Spirit indwelling the believer, we have not received Salvation from Jesus.

1 Corinthians 2:11

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.**

This was also true for those prophets of the Old Covenant. They needed the indwelling of the Holy Spirit to know the mind and the word of God. The indwelling of the Spirit under the Old Covenant was not a *permanent* condition. The "sealing" of the Holy Spirit is the promise of God given to New Covenant believers.

2 Corinthians 1:22

who also **sealed us** and gave [us] the **Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.**

Ephesians 1:13

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,**

Romans 11:29

for the **gifts** and the **calling of God are irrevocable.**

The gifts and our calling into Salvation under the New Covenant are irrevocable. They can never be lost, taken away or voluntarily forfeited by anyone with the indwelling of God's Holy Spirit. That is God's New Covenant promise ... He *guarantee's* it in Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 7:22

so much the more also **Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.**

This was not always so. The prophets of Old had to have the Holy Spirit of God to hear and understand the Word of God. Many had an indwelling of His word, but there was no guarantee offered them for a permanent indwelling under the Old Covenant promises. The Holy Spirit was present with the congregation or the church of Israel, but not in the way it is present with the New Covenant church.

Isaiah 63:11

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,**

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

The presence of God was with Israel but not in them as it is for us today, Spiritual Israel. The Holy Spirit was removed from some and given to others in accordance to the will of God to serve His special purpose.

Numbers 11:17

"Then I will come down and speak with you there, and **I will take of the Spirit who is upon you, and will put [Him] upon them**; and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, so that you will not bear [it] all alone.

Numbers 11:25

Then the **LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him**; and **He took of the Spirit who was upon him and placed [Him] upon the seventy elders**. And when the Spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do [it] again.

This is not the case for New Covenant believers due to the promise of God not to remove His Spirit from one He gifts it to.

Numbers 27:18

So the LORD said to Moses, "Take Joshua the son of Nun, **a man in whom is the Spirit**, and lay your hand on him;

2 Samuel 23:2

"The **Spirit** of the **LORD spoke** by me, And His word was on my tongue.

Isaiah 48:16

¶ "Come near to Me, listen to this: From the first I have not spoken in secret, From the time it took place, I was there. And now the **Lord GOD has sent Me, and His Spirit.**"

Isaiah 59:21

"As for Me, this is **My covenant with them**," says the LORD: "**My Spirit which is upon you**, and My words which I have put in your mouth shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your offspring, nor from the mouth of your offspring's offspring," says the LORD, "from now and forever."

Ezekiel 11:24

And the **Spirit lifted me up and brought me in a vision by the Spirit of God** to the exiles in Chaldea. So the vision that I had seen left me.

Ezekiel 39:29

"I will not hide My face from them any longer, for I will have poured out My Spirit on the house of Israel," declares the Lord GOD.

The giving of His Holy Spirit to His people was always in the plan of God, though some try to deny that. God has always planned to provide an indwelling of His Spirit for His

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

people. Those who have received the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit are now His holy people Israel ... Spiritual Israel.

Zechariah 12:10

"I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn.

Luke 10:21

At that very time **He rejoiced greatly in the Holy Spirit**, and said, "I praise You, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from [the] wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants. Yes, Father, for this way was well-pleasing in Your sight.

THE PERSONALITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The previous section dealt the Scriptures that establish the Deity and Divinity of the Holy Spirit as God. Here we will examine the Scriptures that establish the *personality* of the Holy Spirit as a distinct person, the third person of the Triune God. As a person, the Holy Spirit deserves treatment as a person and should never be regarded as an "it."

Widespread acceptance of Eastern Religions, Cults, Pantheism and various philosophies into Western Culture serves to undermine and corrupt the purity and truth of God breathed revelation as recorded in the pages of the bible ... Holy Scripture.

Use of The Masculine Pronoun HE

The Greek word **πνευμα** pneuma; is a neutral or neuter word and as such, one would expect to have pronouns that agree with them in person, number and gender. This does not occur in Scripture, nor should it be looked upon as error because no other errors of this type appear anywhere else in Scripture. John uses the masculine pronoun He, **εκεινος** ekeionos, deliberately and purposefully to properly relate the teaching of Jesus on the subject ... that the Holy Spirit is a *person* and not a thing.

John 16:13-14

- 13 "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.
- 14 "**He** will glorify Me, for **He** will take of Mine and will disclose [it] to you.

We see a similar occurrence in the book of Ephesians.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Ephesians 1:14

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.

The Greek word *ος* hos has the preferred translation of who in the text. Rather than which, or that. All occurrences in Scripture will use the personal pronoun translations as He, His, who and whom when referring to the Holy Spirit as the proper translation of the Greek text mandate.

The occurrences of the Spirit speaking, thinking, loving, have intelligence, giving advise, helping, having emotions, counseling and giving aid are not characteristics of an Inanimate and non-living object. The above qualities are evidences of the personal nature of God the Holy Spirit..

Acts 8:29

Then **the Spirit said** to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot."

Romans 15:30

¶ Now I urge you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ and **by the love of the Spirit**, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me,

1 Corinthians 2:12

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,

To grieve the Holy Spirit is to grieve God. Grieving the Spirit is associated with the rebellion and disobedience of God's people.

Isaiah 63:10

But they rebelled And **grieved His Holy Spirit**; Therefore **He** turned **Himself** to become their enemy, **He** fought against them.

Ephesians 4:30

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

Personal Identification of Work

Jesus and the Holy Spirit are both spoken of as our Helper, Comforter and Advocate. The Greek renders it as our παρακλητος parakletos (*par-ak'-lay-tos*)

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 that I said to you.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

John 15:26

¶¶ "When the **Helper** comes, **whom** I will send to you from the Father, [that is] the **Spirit of truth who** proceeds from the Father, **He** will testify about Me,

John 16:7

¶¶ "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the **Helper** will not come to you; but if I go, I will send **Him** to you.

Jesus begins with a statement of His truthfulness in John 16:7 ... How can one continue to view the Holy Spirit as an "it" in light of the above Scriptures?

John 14:16

"I will ask the Father, and He will give you **another Helper**, that **He** may be with you forever;

To further reinforce the point being made is the use of the term *αλλος* *allos* translated as **another** in John 14:16. This term means "another of the same kind" according to Richard Trench, in his book, *Synonyms of The New Testament*, pp 357-361. The Holy Spirit is the *replacement* for Jesus. The linking of Jesus' going away and the coming of the Holy Spirit means it is a replacement of the same kind that Jesus is ... God With Us.

Jesus, whom nobody with a sound mind will ever deny as a person is also our Helper with the Father, our *parakletos*, translated as Advocate in First John.

1 John 2:1

¶¶ My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an **Advocate** with the Father, **Jesus Christ the righteous**;

Holy Spirit Linked With The Father and The Son

Baptismal Formula

Matthew 28:19

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, **baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit**,

Baptism of Jesus

Matthew 3:16-17

- 16 After being baptized, **Jesus came up** immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the **Spirit of God descending** as a dove and lighting on Him,
- 17 and behold, a **voice out of the heavens said, "This is My beloved Son**, in whom I am well-pleased."

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Glorification

John 16:14

"He will glorify Me, (*Jesus*) for He will take of Mine and will disclose [it] to you.

2 Corinthians 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 from the Lord, the Spirit.**

1 Peter 4:14

If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the **Spirit of glory and of God** rests on you.

Benedictions

2 Corinthians 13:14

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

1 Corinthians 6:11

Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were **justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.**

1 Corinthians 12:3-6

- 3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the **Spirit of God** says,
"Jesus is accursed"; and no one can say, "**Jesus is Lord**," except by the **Holy Spirit.**
- 4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the **same Spirit.**
- 5 And there are varieties of ministries, and the **same Lord.**
- 6 There are varieties of effects, but the **same God** who works all things in all persons.

1 Peter 1:2

according to the **foreknowledge of God the Father**, by the **sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ** and be sprinkled with His blood: May grace and peace be yours in the fullest measure.

Jude 20-21

- 22 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, **praying in the Holy Spirit,**
- 23 keep yourselves **in the love of God**, waiting anxiously for the **mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ** to eternal life.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Acts 2:33

"Therefore **having been exalted (Jesus)** to the **right hand of God**, and having received **from the Father** the promise **of the Holy Spirit**, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.

Galatians 4:6

Because you are sons, **God** has **sent forth the Spirit** of **His Son** into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

21 Now He who **establishes us with you in Christ** and **anointed us is God**,
24 who also sealed us and gave [us] **the Spirit in our hearts** as a pledge.

Romans 15:16

to be a **minister of Christ Jesus** to the Gentiles, ministering as a priest the **gospel of God**, so that [my] offering of the Gentiles may become acceptable, **sanctified by the Holy Spirit**.

Ephesians 3:14-17

14 ¶ For this reason I bow my knees **before the Father**,
15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name,
16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of **His glory**, to be strengthened with **power through His Spirit** in the inner man,
17 so that **Christ may dwell in your hearts** through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

2 Thessalonians 2:13

¶ But we should always **give thanks to God** for you, brethren **beloved by the Lord**, because **God has chosen you** from the beginning for salvation through **sanctification by the Spirit** and faith in the truth.

Relationship With God's People

The Spirit has always had a special relationship with the people of God, both in the Old and New Testaments. There was a very personal relationship present between the prophets, Priests, Rulers, Kings and Magistrates. The Old Covenant Scriptures are indeed numerous. I will list but only a few Scriptures to illustrate the Holy Spirit was present in the Old Covenant, but in a different type of ministry and relationship.

Numbers 24:2

And **Balaam** lifted up his eyes and saw Israel camping tribe by tribe; and the **Spirit of God came upon him**.

It is interesting to note that Balaam was a non-Israelite prophet. God commanded Balaam not to heed King Balak of Moab who inquired of Balaam to curse Israel as they

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

were released by God from their captivity in Egypt. God spoke to Balaam and Balaam obeyed God. God speaks with Balaam often. In fact it was Balaam's donkey who spoke to him.

Numbers 27:18

So the LORD said to Moses, "Take **Joshua** the son of Nun, **a man in whom is the Spirit**, and lay your hand on him;

2 Chronicles 24:20

Then the **Spirit of God came on Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest**; and he stood above the people and said to them, "Thus God has said, 'Why do you transgress the commandments of the LORD and do not prosper? Because you have forsaken the LORD, He has also forsaken you.'"

Ezekiel 11:5

Then the **Spirit of the LORD fell upon me, and He said to me**, "Say, 'Thus says the LORD, "So you think, house of Israel, for I know your thoughts.

We see clear evidence of the Holy Spirit as a person in the Old Covenant as well as the New. The Holy Spirit is identified with the personal masculine pronoun He, just as it is in the New Covenant as taught by Jesus. The characteristics and personality of the 3rd person of the Triune is Eternal and never changing. Though ministries may change, the personality that marks the Holy Spirit remains constant.

1 Samuel 11:6

Then the Spirit of God came upon Saul mightily when he heard these words, and he became very angry.

1 Samuel 16:14

¶ Now the **Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul**, and an evil spirit from the LORD terrorized him.

There was no promise of a permanent indwelling of the Holy Spirit under the Old Covenant. Under the New Covenant, we have better promises, one of which is a guarantee of a permanent indwelling of God's Holy Spirit. We are established and anointed by God, and He gives us His Spirit as a pledge. A pledge is the *personal guarantee* of God.

Hebrews 7:22

so much the more also Jesus has become the **guarantee of a better covenant**.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

21 Now He who **establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God**,
22 who also **sealed us and gave us the Spirit** in our hearts as a **pledge**.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Let's examine some new Covenant Scriptures on the personal characteristics of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 15:28

"For it **seemed good to the Holy Spirit** and to us to lay upon you no greater burden than these essentials:

1 Corinthians 14:15

¶ What is [the outcome] then? **I will pray with the spirit** and I will pray with the mind also; **I will sing with the spirit** and I will sing with the mind also.

Romans 15:30

¶ Now I urge you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ and **by the love of the Spirit**, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me,

Romans 2:29

But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is **of the heart, by the Spirit**, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God.

Hebrews 2:4

God also testifying with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the **Holy Spirit according to His own will**.

Luke 12:12

for **the Holy Spirit will teach you** in that very hour what you ought to say."

John 16:13

"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.

2 Peter 1:21

for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but **men moved by the Holy Spirit** spoke from God.

2 Corinthians 3:8

how will the **ministry of the Spirit** fail to be even more with glory?

Galatians 5:16

But I say, **walk by the Spirit**, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

Galatians 6:8

For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one **who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life**.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Romans 15:13

¶ Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that **you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Acts 9:31

So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria enjoyed peace, being built up; and going on in the fear of the Lord and in **the comfort of the Holy Spirit**, it continued to increase.

Philippians 1:19

for I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your **prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,**

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 that I said to you.

Acts 1:8

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."

Romans 8:11

But if the **Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead** dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead **will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.**

Acts 10:19

¶ While **Peter** was reflecting on the vision, the **Spirit said to him**, "Behold, three men are looking for you.

Acts 13:2

While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, **the Holy Spirit said**, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

Acts 13:4

¶ So, being **sent out by the Holy Spirit**, they went down to Seleucia and from there they sailed to Cyprus.

Hebrews 10:15

And **the Holy Spirit also testifies** to us; for after saying,

Acts 20:23

except that **the Holy Spirit solemnly testifies** to me in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions await me.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

Romans 8:26-27

26 ¶ In the same way **the Spirit also helps our weakness**; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the **Spirit Himself intercedes for [us]** with groanings too deep for words;

27 and He who searches the hearts **knows what the mind of the Spirit is**, because **He intercedes for the saints** according to [the will of] God.

1 Timothy 4:1

¶ But the **Spirit explicitly says** that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,

Revelation 2:7

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

Revelation 22:17

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

Passive Personal Traits

We Can Lie To The Spirit

Acts 5:3

But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to **lie to the Holy Spirit** and to keep back [some] of the price of the land?"

We Can Grieve The Spirit

Ephesians 4:30

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

We Can Quench The Spirit

1 Thessalonians 5:19: **Do not quench the Spirit;**

We Can Resist The Holy Spirit

Acts 7:51

¶ "You men who are stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears are always **resisting the Holy Spirit**; you are doing just as your fathers did.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

We Can Blaspheme The Holy Spirit

Matthew 12:31

"Therefore I say to you, any sin and **blasphemy** shall be forgiven people, but **blasphemy against the Spirit shall not be forgiven.**

Mark 3:29

but **whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness**, but is guilty of an eternal sin"—

Luke 12:10

"And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but **he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him.**

Summary

The Holy Spirit is a Person.

The Holy Spirit is not some vague, impersonal force, power or manifestation. The Holy Spirit is the 3rd Person or personhood of the Triune God. The Holy Spirit is deserving and worthy of our total respect, admiration and worship. It is right and fitting to pray to the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is God.

As the 3rd person of the Triune God, He is *Eternal* and *Equal* in essence with The Father and The Son. It is appropriate for us to worship, pray, and sing praises to the Holy Spirit just as we do The Father and Jesus Christ. Subordination in function and role does not in any way constitute an inferior or lesser essence than God The Father.

The Holy Spirit is One With The Father and Son.

There is ONE GOD that exists in three centers of personhood within one perfect monotheistic unity. The Triune nature is three co-equal centers of consciousness, who exist and have always existed (eternal) in union (koinonia) with one another (relational) and dependent upon one another (co-essential.) This union is expressed as God is love. There is complete equality of the three that have willingly and lovingly delegated function (which is non-essential) for bringing man (image bearers) into relationship (koinonia) with God. The unity and equality of the Triune God does not require function and roles for while there are certainly roles and functions that distinctively and primarily belong to one, all participate in the function of each other. There is absolutely no tension present among their persons, roles, functions and activities. All are in perfect

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

relationship with each other in such an intimate way that the will of one is the perfect will of the others.

The Holy Spirit Indwells Born Again Believers

God is not in any way distant or removed from mankind. So close is the Eternal Triune to His people that we are the living temple of our living God. He indwells His believers. In fact, the relationship of God and His people is closer now than when the incarnate Jesus lived among His people. We are not separated by time or distance from coming into a deep and abiding personal relationship with each member of the Triune. To know one is to know all. The incarnation of Jesus was "God With Us" but the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is "God in Us." This is the true understanding of the words of Jesus when He said ...

John 16:7

¶ "But I tell you the truth, **it is to your advantage that I go away**; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.