

THE HOLY SPIRIT: WHY DON'T WE TALK ABOUT HIM MORE?

PEOPLE'S
choice

Some are embarrassed.

- Some don't want to be grouped with those who carry on embarrassing antics in the name of the Holy Spirit.

Some are wary of misuse or error.

- There are those who claim “a word” from the Holy Spirit to “leverage” their perspective.

Some are wary of misuse or error.

- There are those who claim “a word” from the Holy Spirit to “leverage” their perspective.
- **Speaking in tongues is THE evidence of being saved, of being filled with the Spirit.**

Some are wary of misuse or error.

- There are those who claim “a word” from the Holy Spirit to “leverage” their perspective.
- Speaking in tongues is THE evidence of being saved, of being filled with the Spirit.
- **They take pride in their spiritual gift for their own aggrandizement.**

Some are wary of misuse or error.

- There are those who claim “a word” from the Holy Spirit to “leverage” their perspective.
- Speaking in tongues is THE evidence of being saved, of being filled with the Spirit.
- They take pride in their spiritual gift for their own aggrandizement.
- **The error of allowing the “Spirit” to speak without the check of the Word which the same Spirit inspired.**

Some are wary of misuse or error.

- There are those who claim “a word” from the Holy Spirit to “leverage” their perspective.
- Speaking in tongues is THE evidence of being saved, of being filled with the Spirit.
- They take pride in their spiritual gift for their own aggrandizement.
- The error of allowing the “Spirit” to speak without the check of the Word which the same Spirit inspired.
- **The result: crazy doctrines, crazy predictions and announcements.**

Some are wary of a Holy Spirit obsession.

- Preoccupation with the Holy Spirit eclipses Jesus and the Father.

The Holy Spirit was important in the Old Testament.

- Active in creation – Genesis 1:2
- Transient impact on his leaders - i.e. Samson - Judges 13:6

The Holy Spirit was important in the Old Testament.

- **Prophecy of future coming – Isaiah 44:3**

“For I will pour water on the thirsty land,
and streams on the dry ground;

I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring,
and my blessing on your descendants.”

The Holy Spirit was important in the Old Testament.

- **Prophecy of future coming – Ezekiel 36:26**

“And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.”

He was important to Jesus.

John 14:16

“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever.”

John 16:7

“Nevertheless, 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.

He was John's unique focus.

John 1:1-13 - 13 verses covers:

- Infinity before the creation
- The Old Testament
- The first 30 years of Jesus' life

He was John's unique focus.

- John 1:14- 12:10 covers 3 -1/2 years of Jesus' ministry
- John 12:12 – 19:42 covers the last 7 days of Jesus life
- John 20 and 21 cover Jesus' resurrection and confirmation of his appearances

Within this passage (John 12-19):

- 4 chapters (Ch 13-18) detail the last evening probably 4-6 hours!
- The last message to His disciples makes up nearly 20% of the entire book!

Timeline of the Gospel of John

John 1:1

20%

John 21:25

4-6 hours

Jesus talked about the Holy Spirit **many** times during this last interaction with his disciples.

Therefore, He ought to be important to us!

His self-effacing, Christ-honoring role:

- **He's the instrument of prevenient grace**

This work of the Holy Spirit in our lives prior to our conversion to open our eyes and hearts to the truth of Christ's message.

His self-effacing, Christ-honoring role:

- He's convicts us of sin

He convinces us we're sinners in need of being saved.

His self-effacing, Christ-honoring role:

- He's the conveyer of Truth

He lights up the understanding of scripture so we can understand the *Living Word*.

His self-effacing, Christ-honoring role:

- He's our Counselor

He guides us through life.

His self-effacing, Christ-honoring role:

- He's our Comforter

He's an indwelling presence who reminds us we're never alone.

His self-effacing, Christ-honoring role:

- **He's our communication link**

He interprets our thoughts and longings when we don't know how to express them. We pray to God (trinity):

- To the Father
- In the name of the Son (Jesus)
- By the power of the Holy Spirit

His self-effacing, Christ-honoring role:

- He's our Helper in the areas of [potentially] greatest impact on our lives

Purity – Cleansing transformation sanctification

- Crisis and progressive
- OST (Ongoing Spiritual Transformation)

The fruit of the Spirit – Gal 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is:

Love

Joy

Peace

Patience

Self-control

Goodness

Faithfulness

Gentleness

Kindness

...against such things there is no law.

His self-effacing, Christ-honoring role:

- He's our Helper in the areas of [potential] greatest impact on our lives

Power – favor (credibility)
– witness
– authority
– spiritual warfare

The promise of effectiveness.

John 14:12-14

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do. [by the power of the HS in us!]

Q: The Holy Spirit: Why don't we talk about Him more?

We should!

- To dispel misunderstandings and to fully understand how important He is in our lives

A: Because the ministry of the Holy Spirit is a self-effacing ministry.

- He does not call attention to Himself
- He always points people to Jesus

John 15:26

“But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father . . .he will bear witness about me.”

Takeaways:

- Read John 14 – 18 with fresh eyes
- Read a short booklet – *My Heart, Christ's Home* by Robert Mungler
- Ask God to fill/refill you with His Holy Spirit so you can experience new levels of *purity* and *power* as you seek to serve Him.