

Do You Know the Holy Spirit?
Lesson Three: Holy Spirit, the Revealer of Truth
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Introduction: The Scriptures Are the Work of the Holy Spirit (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

- A. What is Scripture? (Literally it means “a writing”).
1. Jesus defines that which is written or “Scripture” to stand for the law or God’s word (**John 10:34-35**).
 2. At the time of Christ, the Scriptures specifically stood for the writings of the Law of Moses, the prophets and the psalms (**Luke 24:44-45**).
 3. Later, the apostle Peter would refer to the apostle Paul’s writings as part of the Scriptures (**2 Pet. 3:15-16**).
- B. All Scripture is God-inspired or “God-breathed” (**2 Tim. 3:16**).

Note: “Inspired” (THEOPNEUSTES) means “God (THEO) - breathed (PNEO).”

1. The breath of God is parallel to the word of God (**Ps. 33:6**).
 2. “*The Spirit of God*” breathed into the Bible writers that spoke for Him; “*The breath of the Almighty*” is the source of inspiration (**Job 32:8; 33:4**).
- C. Revelation comes as a result of inspiration.
1. Revelation is the unveiling of hidden truths which otherwise would not be known or understood.
 2. By the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, God’s mind and will was revealed to the apostles and prophets (**1 Cor. 2:9-16; e.g., Heb. 3:7**).
 3. Thankfully, revelation was given by the Spirit in words that we *can* understand! (**Eph. 3:3-5**)

I. From the Beginning, the Holy Spirit Has Been the Revealer of Truth.

- A. The Holy Spirit revealed the interpretation of dreams (**Gen. 41:16, 38**).
- B. The Holy Spirit gave wisdom in constructing the tabernacle (**Exod. 31:3ff.**), the temple (**1 Chron. 28:11-12**), and the rebuilding of the temple (**Zech. 4:6-7**).
- C. The Holy Spirit imparted wisdom to judges and military leaders of God’s people (e.g., **Judges 3:10; 6:34; 11:29; 1 Sam. 11:6; 1 Chron. 12:18**).
- D. The Holy Spirit taught truth through visions (**Ezek. 11:24-25**).

II. The Holy Spirit and the Prophets.

- A. The prophet is a “mouth” of God.
1. The *actual* words were chosen by God and placed in the prophet’s mouth - *not* merely an idea placed in his mind (**Deut. 18:17-19**).
 2. Prophet’s opinions or personal interpretations were *never* involved in prophecy of Scripture; they were *moved by the Holy Spirit* (**2 Pet. 1:19-21; e.g., Num. 24:2ff; Isa. 61:1; Jer. 1:4; Ezek. 11:1, 5**).
 3. True prophets spoke not for the people (**Mic. 2:11**), but for God by the power of “*the Spirit of the Lord*” (**Mic. 3:8; cf. 2 Chron 15:1ff; 24:20**).
- B. The proclamation of the prophets often involved *prophecy* - *the prediction of future events* (**Isa 42:9**), an ability attributed to “*the Spirit of God*” (**1 Sam 19:20**)
1. Many prophecies were made predicting the fall of nations such as Egypt and Edom (**Joel 3:19**), Assyria (**Nah. 3**), and Babylon (**Jer. 50**).
 2. David, moved by the Holy Spirit, wrote Psalms that included prophecies of the Messiah (**Ps. 51:11; cf. 2 Sam. 23:2; e.g., Ps. 2; cf. Acts 13:33-35**).

III. The Holy Spirit and the Apostles: The Promise of “the Comforter.”

A. “The Spirit of Truth” (John 14:15-24)

1. In response to the love shown by the obedience of the apostles (vs. 15, 21, 23-24), Jesus would send them the *Comforter*, the Holy Spirit (v. 16).
 - a. Another “Comforter” meaning a helper, counselor, advisor, and advocate; one who instructs, convicts, reminds, and pleads (cf. John 14:26; 15:26; 16:7; 1 John 2:1 – from PARAKLETOS).
2. Though the Holy Spirit was already abiding in them, He would soon be indwelling them directly and miraculously (John 14:17).
 - a. He would reveal to them all of the truth of God’s word (John 16:13) and even reveal Christ Himself after His departure (v. 19).
 - b. *The Holy Spirit would continue the work of Christ in them!*
 - c. Through the help of the Holy Spirit, Jesus would never leave them (John 14:18; cf. Mat. 28:20).
3. The world could not receive the Holy Spirit and the truth of God would not be revealed *until* it was preached to them by the apostles (John 14:17).

B. “The Helper” would teach them all things and remind them of what Jesus said.

1. All the apostles needed to know of God’s will (John 14:25-26) and the relationship between the Father and the Son would be revealed (v. 20).
2. The apostles would not rely on their limited memories, but would be given *perfect* remembrance, the ability to recall *all* the words of Jesus!

C. The apostles were not mere servants (or disciples), but special chosen *friends* of Jesus who were entrusted with the revelation by the Spirit (John 15:15-17).

1. The spiritual impact Jesus’ friends would have in taking the gospel to the world would remain and continue for generations to come (v. 16).

D. The Holy Spirit would give the apostles the words to say to their persecutors.

1. They would be hated by the world just like Jesus (John 15:18-25).
2. The Holy Spirit would bear witness of Jesus along with the testimony of the apostles (John 15:26-27; cf. Acts 1:21-22; 5:32).
3. The Spirit would speak for the apostles when persecuted (Mark 13:11).

E. The Revelation of the Holy Spirit (John 16:5-15).

1. *Only until* Jesus went away and was glorified (by His death and resurrection) would the Comforter come to them (John 16:7; cf. 7:39).
2. At the Holy Spirit’s coming, the world would be *convicted* (vs. 8-11).
 - a. Of sin for not believing in Christ who could have saved them.
 - b. Of the righteousness or innocence of Jesus, proven by His resurrection and ascension to the Heavenly Father.
 - c. Of judgment, condemning falsely and unjustly the Lord Jesus bringing condemnation instead upon Satan (cf. Jn. 12:31; 14:30).
3. The Spirit of truth would take the place of Christ to lead the apostles into *all* of the truth, giving them *complete* knowledge (vs. 12-13).
4. The words of the Son that are also the words of the Father are taken by the Holy Spirit and revealed to His apostles (v. 15).

Conclusion: It is for This Reason That God’s House is Built upon the Words of the Apostles and Prophets, for They Were Given by the Holy Spirit! (Eph. 2:19-20; 3:5)