

## The Holy Spirit Is A Divine Person

Our only source of valid information concerning the Holy Spirit is the Bible. Apart from divine revelation, we would “...have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost” (Acts 19:2). The Bible has been revealed by the Holy Spirit (Eph. 3:3-5; 2 Pet. 1:20-21). So, to read the Bible is to read what the Holy Spirit has revealed about Himself.

1) ***How The Holy Spirit Is Identified.*** The Holy Spirit is referred to different ways in the Scriptures. Here are some terms by which the Spirit is known:

“*the Holy Ghost*” (Mt. 1:18)

“*the Spirit of God*” (Mt. 3:16)

“*the Spirit*” (Mt. 4:1)

“*the Spirit of your Father*”  
(Mt. 10:20)

“*the Spirit of the Lord*”  
(Lk. 4:18)

“*the Holy Spirit*” (Lk. 11:13)

“*the Spirit of truth*” (Jn. 14:17)

“*the Comforter*” (Jn. 15:26)

“*the Spirit of the living God*”  
(2 Cor. 3:3)

“*the eternal Spirit*” (Heb. 9:14)

“*the Spirit of grace*”  
(Heb. 10:29)

“*the Spirit of Christ*”  
(1 Pet. 1:11)

We ought to speak of the Holy Spirit how the Bible speaks of Him (1 Pet. 4:11).

2) ***Some Things The Holy Spirit Is Not.*** The Holy Spirit is not what many think. To understand who the Holy Spirit is, we must realize some things He is not. The Holy Spirit is not:

*A dove.* It is said at the baptism of Jesus, “...and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him” (Mt. 3:16). The Holy Spirit is not a dove, but *descended like a dove!*

*The word of God.* Paul penned, “And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” (Eph. 6:17). The fact that the sword of the Spirit is the word of God shows the Spirit is not the word and the word is not the Spirit!

*An it, or some kind of fog,*

*gas or vapor.* Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as a he. “Howbeit when *he*, the Spirit of truth, is come, *he* will guide you into all truth: for *he* shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever *he* shall hear, that shall *he* speak: and *he* will show you things to come” (Jn. 16:13).

*Just an influence or power of God.* Peter preached, “How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power...” (Acts 10:38). If the Holy Spirit is just a power of God, this verse should read: “How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with power and with power...”!

*God the Father or Jesus the Son.* The Holy Spirit is mentioned distinct from the Father and the Son (Mt. 28:19). The Holy Spirit would be sent by the Father in the name of the Son (Jn. 14:26).

*A fleshly being.* Jesus said, “Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have” (Lk. 24:39).

Now, we are in better position to understand who the Holy Spirit is.

### 3) *The Holy Spirit Is Divine.*

*The Holy Spirit is God.* When Ananias lied "...to the Holy Ghost..." (Acts 5:3), he lied "...unto God" (Acts 5:4).

*The Holy Spirit possesses the attributes and characteristics of deity.* He is eternal (Heb. 9:14). He is omnipotent (Rom. 8:11). He is omniscient (1 Cor. 2:11-12). He is omnipresent (Ps. 139:7).

The Holy Spirit is divine, inasmuch as the Father and Son are divine in nature!

### 4) *The Holy Spirit Is A Person.*

*Personal pronouns indicate the Holy Spirit is a person.* Jesus used the personal pronouns "he" and "himself" with reference to the Spirit of truth (Jn. 16:13).

*The Holy Spirit demonstrates the actions of a person.* He leads (Mt. 4:1). He teaches and reminds (Jn. 14:26). He testifies (Jn. 15:26). He reproves (Jn. 16:7-8). He guides, hears, speaks, and reveals (Jn. 16:13). He forbids (Acts 16:6-7). He bears witness (Rom. 8:16). He searches (1 Cor. 2:10).

*The Holy Spirit has things possessed by a person.* He has knowledge (1 Cor. 2:11). He has will (1 Cor. 12:11).

*Things that can be done to the Holy Spirit show Him to be a person.* He can be blasphemed (Mt. 12:31). He can be lied to (Acts 5:3). He can be resisted (Acts 7:51). He can be grieved (Eph. 4:30). He can be done despite unto (Heb. 10:29).

Misunderstanding concerning the Holy Spirit comes when men lose sight of the fact that the Holy Spirit is a divine person!

## Spirit-Filled People

*John Isaac Edwards*

1) **John The Baptist.** "...he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost..." (Lk. 1:15).

2) **Elisabeth.** "...Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost" (Lk. 1:41).

3) **Zecharias.** "...Zecharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied" (Lk. 1:67).

4) **Jesus.** "...Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost..." (Lk. 4:1).

5) **The Apostles.** "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost..." (Acts 2:4). Also note Acts 4:8, 23-31; 9:17; 13:9.

6) **Table-Serving Men.** Table-serving qualifications

required men, "...full of the Holy Ghost..." (Acts 6:3).

7) **The Disciples.** "And the disciples were filled with...the Holy Ghost" (Acts 13:52). Note Acts 7:55; 11:24.

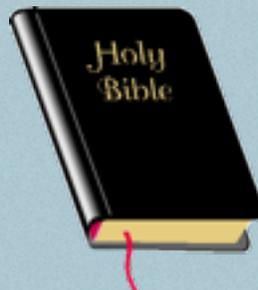
8) **We Are To Be.** We are commanded, "...be filled with the Spirit" (Eph. 5:18).

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