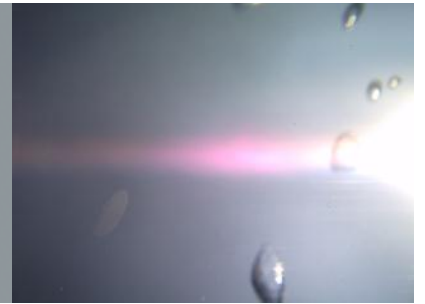


The Holy Spirit

Men of the Word



Cessationism



Tom Pennington

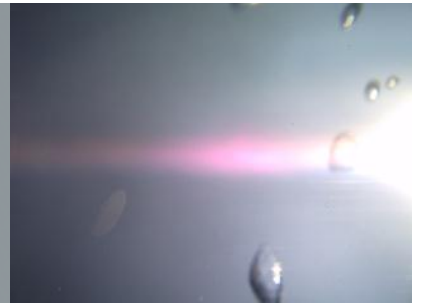
CBC Web Site

A Case for Cessationism – 2 Parts

8/10/14

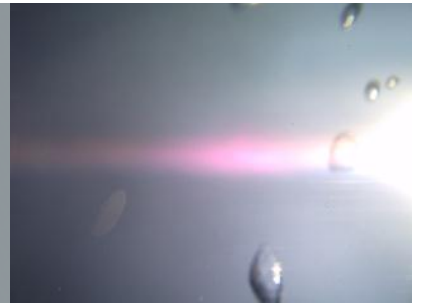
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The Misunderstood Holy Spirit



But the name 'Holy Spirit', or worse (at least at the emotional and psychological levels) 'Holy Ghost', tends to convey a cold, even remote image. After all, what is 'Spirit'? Yet, perhaps the older 'Holy Ghost', with its connotations of vagueness, mystery and insubstantiality, did in fact express what many Christians experience: the Holy Spirit is seen to be distant and impersonal by comparison with the Father and the Son. 'We know not what spirits are, nor what our own spirit is,' wrote Abraham Kuyper. How much less capable are we of comprehending the Spirit of God? What, or who, then, is the Holy Spirit? Sinclair Ferguson, *The Holy Spirit*, p. 16

The Misunderstood Holy Spirit



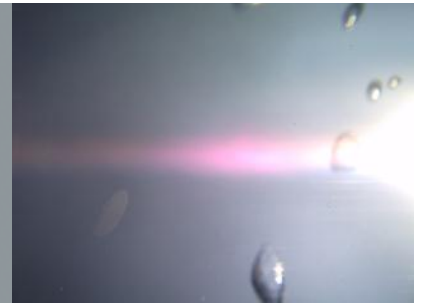
The lack of emphasis on and awareness of the Holy Spirit may be in part because of a misunderstanding of the Holy Spirit.

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.

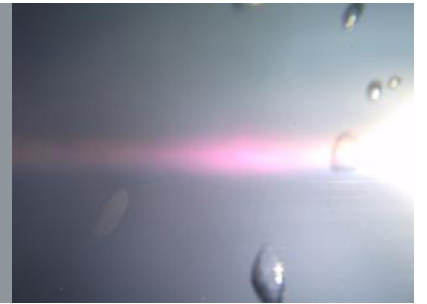
¹⁴ “He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you.

The Misunderstood Holy Spirit



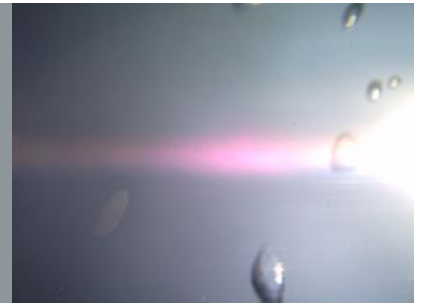
To draw the conclusion from this that we should not focus our attention on the Spirit at all, or grow in personal knowledge of him is a mistake. The fact that within the economy of the divine activity he does not draw attention to himself but to the Son and the Father is actually a reason for us to seek to know him better, to experience communion with him more intimately, not the reverse. He is to be glorified together with the Father and the Son. Sinclair B. Ferguson, *The Holy Spirit*, taken from *The Beauty and Glory of the Holy Spirit*, Beeke and Pipa Jr. p. 165

The Holy Spirit - Definition



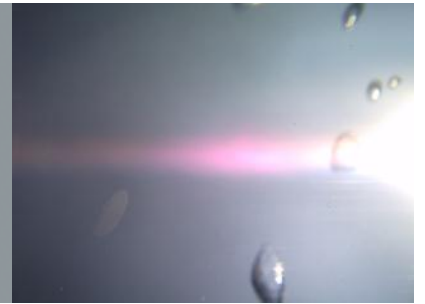
The biblical words for 'spirit' (Heb. *Ruach*; Gk *pneuma*) are onomatopoetic terms, both their physical formation and their sound conveying a sense of their basic meaning: the expulsion of wind or breath, the idea of air in motion. "Spirit" expresses, in its most fundamental form ('the breath of life'), power, energy and life. Sinclair Ferguson, *The Holy Spirit*, p. 16

The Holy Spirit - Definition



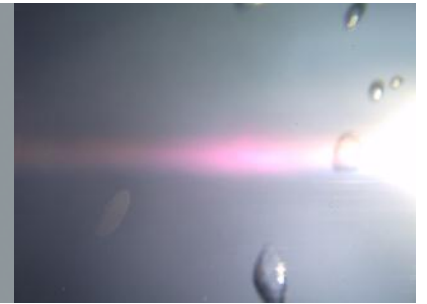
The emphasis lies in the contrast between weakness and power, not in the contrast between material and immaterial. Spirit here contrasts with flesh whose 'characteristic is inertia, lack of power, such as can only be removed by the Spirit of God. Sinclair Ferguson, *The Holy Spirit*, p. 17 (Taken from Iden, *The Pauline Eschatology*)

The Essential Doctrine of the Holy Spirit



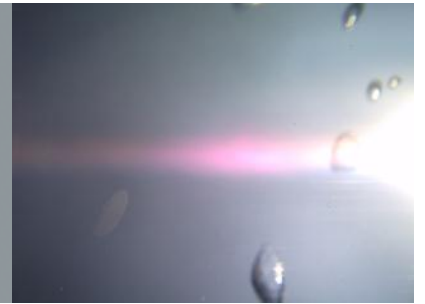
We need the Holy Spirit. It is impossible to overestimate the significance of the Spirit of God for the lives of Christians. In the words of Jesus, the Spirit is the “living water” who satisfies our deepest desires with the streams of Christ’s redemptive glory (John 4:10-14; 7:37-39). Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758) said, “The sum of the blessings Christ sought, by what he did and suffered in the work of redemption, was the Holy Spirit.” Christ died to take away the curse and to give us the Spirit (Gal. 3:13-14). *The Beauty and Glory of the Spirit*, Joel R. Beeke, Joseph A Pipa, Jr.

The Essential Doctrine of the Holy Spirit



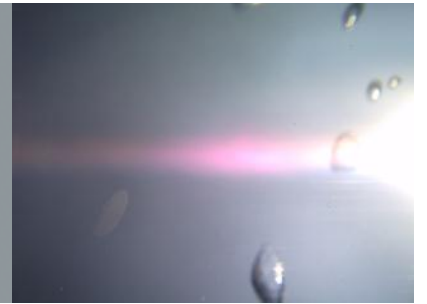
...the Holy Spirit is the point at which the Trinity becomes personal to the believer. We generally think of the Father as transcendent and far off in heaven; similarly, the Son seems far removed in history and thus also relatively unknowable. But the Holy Spirit is active within the lives of believers; he is resident within us. He is the particular person of the Trinity through whom the entire Triune Godhead currently works in us. Erickson

The Essential Doctrine of the Holy Spirit



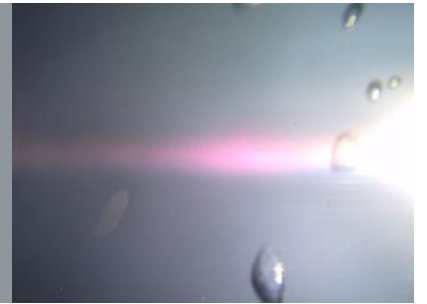
A second reason why the study of the Holy Spirit is especially important is that we live in the period in which the Holy Spirit's work is more prominent than that of the other members of the Trinity. The Father's work was the most conspicuous within the Old Testament period, as was the Son's within the period covered by the Gospels and up to the ascension. The Holy Spirit has occupied the center of the stage from the time of Pentecost on, that is, the period covered by the Book of Acts and the Epistles, and the ensuing periods of church history. Erickson
Erickson, M. J. (1998). *Christian theology*. (2nd ed., p. 863). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House.

The Personality of the Holy Spirit



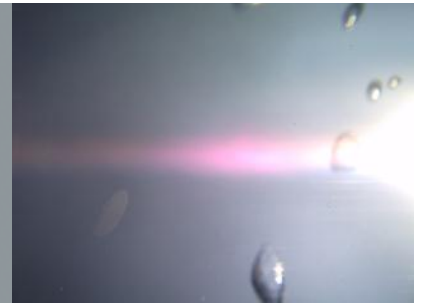
It is important when considering the “personhood” of the Spirit to understand the dangers when missing one direction or the other. Many might conceive the Holy Spirit as simply the expression of power from God. Others might take the idea of Modalism. The Holy Spirit is just one of the manifestations of God. The other extreme would be to believe in “Tritheism.” There are actually three different Gods.

The Personality of the Holy Spirit



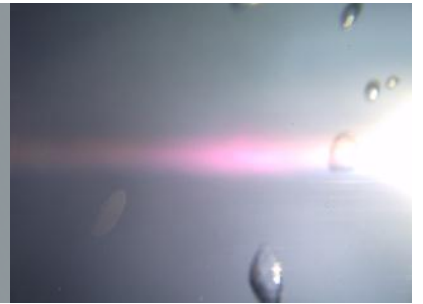
What is a person? Professor John Murray suggested that, as used in defining the Person of the Trinity, the basic idea was a separate seat of self-consciousness... The dictionary adds the character of rationality or intelligence. Thus, as we study the scriptural references to the Spirit to see whether it is proper to speak of the Spirit as a Person, we are looking for a self-conscious being and/or a rational being. If one can think for himself, make decisions for himself, act for himself, and speak for himself, then he can be described as a person. *The Beauty and Glory of the Spirit*, Joel R. Beeke, Joseph A Pipa, Jr. p. 121

The Personality of the Holy Spirit



He (Smeaton) placed the arguments for the personality of the Spirit under the following heads: the personal actions ascribed to Him abundantly prove it (John 14:26; 1 Cor 12:11); His distinction from the Father and the Son, and His mission from both, prove it (John 15:26); the co-ordinate rank and power that belong to Him equally with the Father and the Son prove it (Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor 13, 14); His appearance under a visible form at the baptism of Christ and on the day of Pentecost proves it; the sin against the Holy Ghost, implying a Person, proves it; and the way in which He is distinguished from His gifts proves it (1 Cor. 12:11). Smeaton, *Doctrine of the Holy Spirit* taken from *The Beauty and Glory of the Spirit*, Joel R. Beeke, Joseph A Pipa, Jr. p. 122

Attributes that Demonstrate the Personality of the Holy Spirit



Intellect

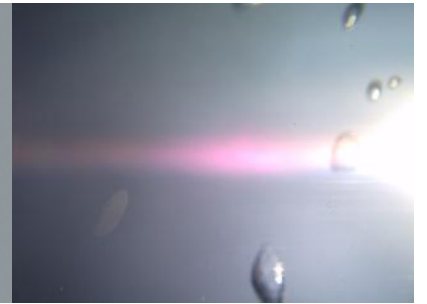
John 14:26

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

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,

Attributes that Demonstrate the Personality of the Holy Spirit

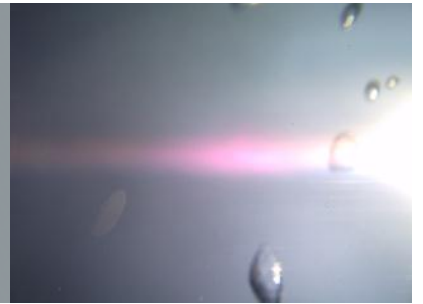


Knowledge

1 Corinthians 2:11

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.

Attributes that Demonstrate the Personality of the Holy Spirit



Emotions/Affections

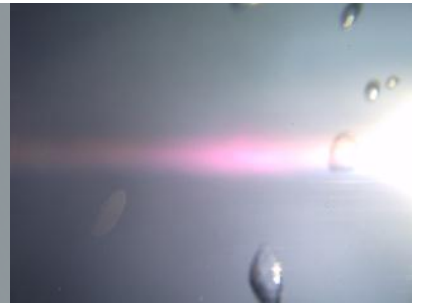
Isaiah 63:10

¹⁰ But they rebelled And grieved His Holy Spirit; Therefore He turned Himself to become their enemy, He fought against them.

Ephesians 4:30

³⁰ Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Attributes that Demonstrate the Personality of the Holy Spirit



Will

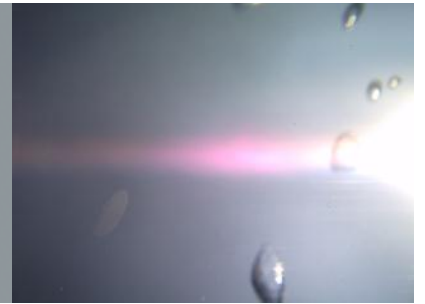
Acts 16:7

⁷ and after they came to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them;

1 Corinthians 12:11

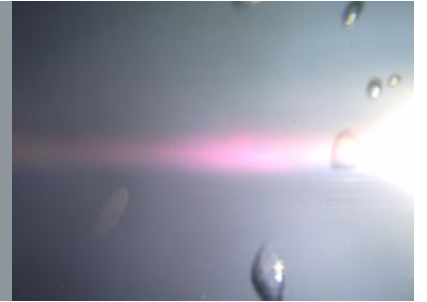
¹¹ But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

Works that Confirm the Spirit's Personality



Moreover, He performs acts proper to personality. He searches, speaks, testifies, commands, reveals, strives, creates, makes intercession, raises the dead, etc., Gen. 1:2; 6:3; Luke 12:12; John 14:26; 15:26; 16:8; Acts 8:29; 13:2; Rom. 8:11; 1 Cor. 2:10, 11. What does all these things cannot be a mere power or influence, but must be a person.
Berkhof

Works that Confirm the Spirit's Personality



The Spirit Speaks

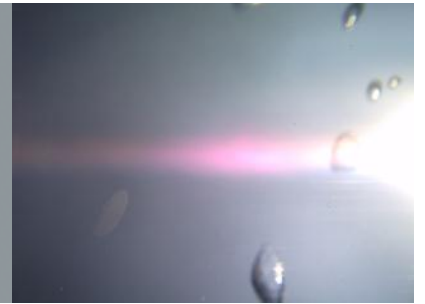
Acts 1:16

¹⁶ “Brethren, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit foretold by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus.

Acts 8:29

²⁹ Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go up and join this chariot.”

Works that Confirm the Spirit's Personality



Functions that both Jesus and the Holy Spirit Perform

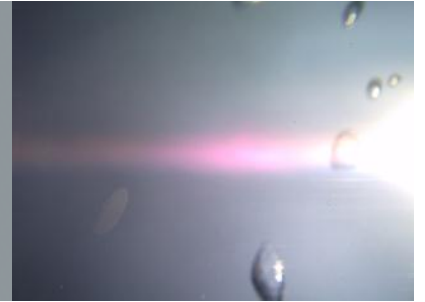
John 14:26

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

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,

Works that Confirm the Spirit's Personality



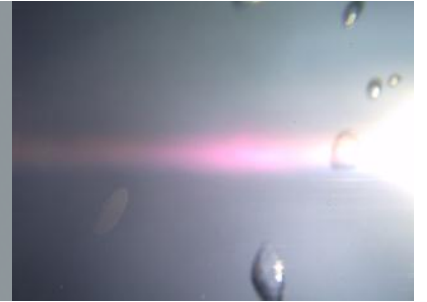
Functions that both Jesus and the Holy Spirit Perform

Another function which both Jesus and the Holy Spirit perform, and which, accordingly, serves as an indication of the Spirit's personality, is that of glorifying another member of the Trinity. Erickson

John 16:14

¹⁴ “He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you.

The Personality of the Holy Spirit

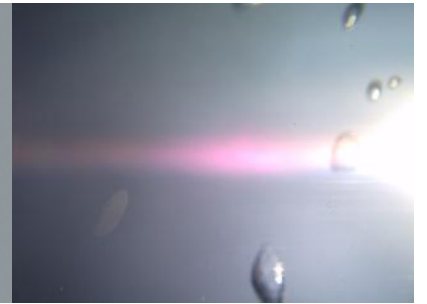


The Spirit Can Be Grieved

Ephesians 4:30

³⁰ Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

The Personality of the Holy Spirit



The Spirit can be Quenched

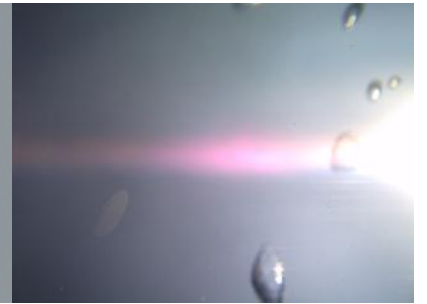
1 Thessalonians 5:19

¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit;

The fire of God's Spirit is not to be doused with sin.

MacArthur

The Personality of the Holy Spirit

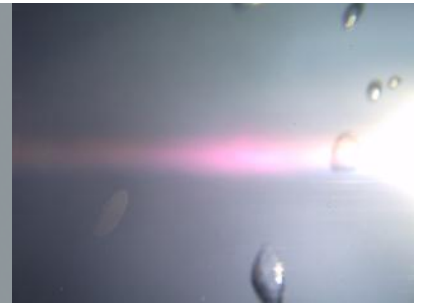


The Spirit can be Blasphemed

Matthew 12:31

³¹ “Therefore I say to you, any sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven people, but blasphemy against the Spirit shall not be forgiven.

The Personality of the Holy Spirit

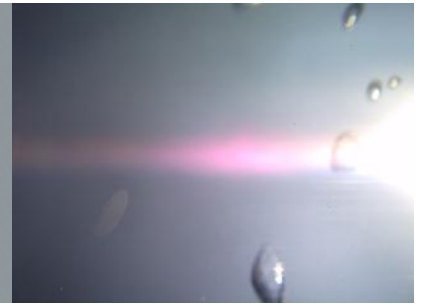


The Spirit can be Resisted

Acts 7:51

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 Personality of the Holy Spirit



The Spirit can be Lied to

Acts 5:1–4

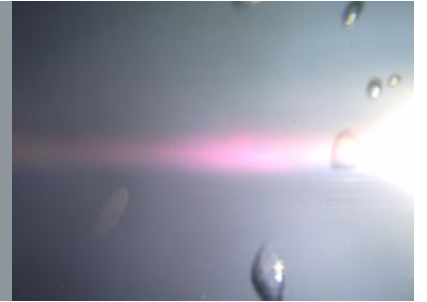
¹ But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property,

² and kept back some of the price for himself, with his wife's full knowledge, and bringing a portion of it, he laid it at the apostles' feet.

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?

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."

The Personality of the Holy Spirit

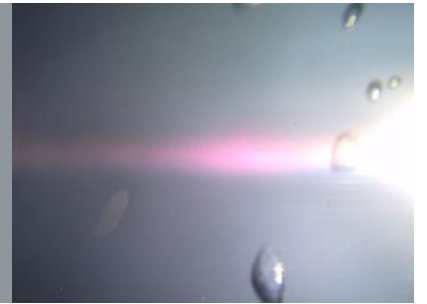


The Spirit can be Insulted

Hebrews 10:29

²⁹ How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?

The Personality of the Holy Spirit

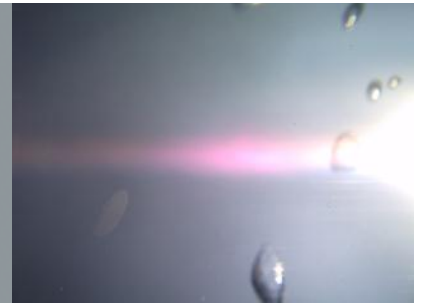


His Designations Confirm His Personality

The Greek word for Spirit is *pneuma* which is a neuter gender word. Any pronoun used to substitute for *pneuma* would normally also be neuter. However, the biblical writers did not follow this grammatical pattern; instead, they substituted masculine pronouns to designate the Holy Spirit.

The purposeful change in grammar emphasizes the personality of the Holy Spirit. There would have been no reason to change from the neuter to the masculine unless the Spirit was understood to be a person. Enns

The Personality of the Holy Spirit



His designations Confirm His Personality

John 15:26

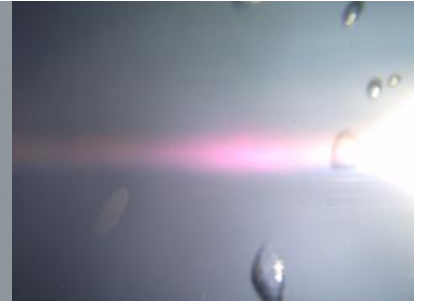
²⁶ “When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, **He** will testify about Me,

John 16:13–14

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.

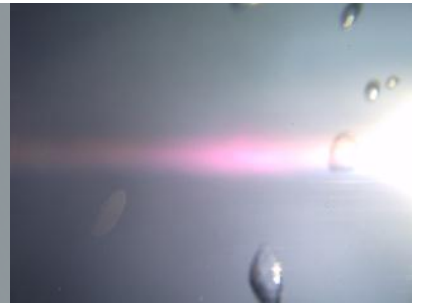
¹⁴ “**He** will glorify Me, for **He** will take of Mine and will disclose it to you.

The Personality of the Holy Spirit



The Holy Spirit is a person, not a force, and that person is God, just as fully and in the same way as are the Father and the Son. Erickson

The Deity of the Holy Spirit



The Holy Spirit's association with the Father and the Son implies equality

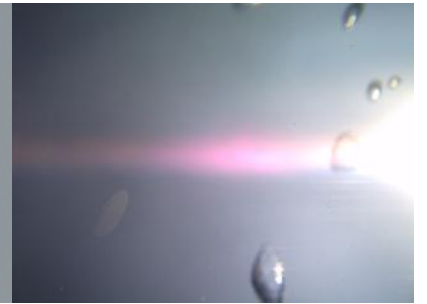
Matthew 28:19

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,

2 Corinthians 13:14

¹⁴ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

The Deity of the Holy Spirit



The Holy Spirit's association with the Father and the Son implies equality

1 Corinthians 12:4–6

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

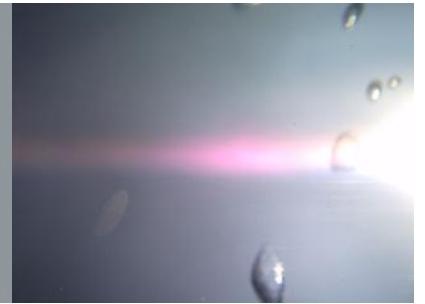
⁵ And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord.

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

1 Peter 1:2

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 Deity of the Holy Spirit



The Holy Spirit and God are used interchangeably

Acts 5:1–4

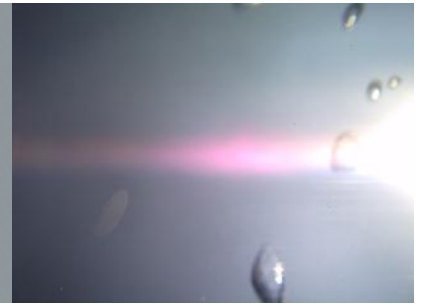
¹ But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property,

² and kept back some of the price for himself, with his wife's full knowledge, and bringing a portion of it, he laid it at the apostles' feet.

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?

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."

Divine Attributes of the Spirit



Life

Job 33:4

⁴ “The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

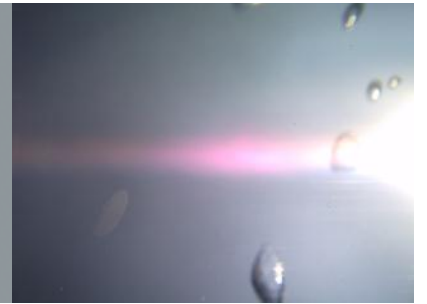
John 6:63

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.

2 Corinthians 3:6

⁶ who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

Divine Attributes of the Spirit



Omniscience

1 Corinthians 2:10–11

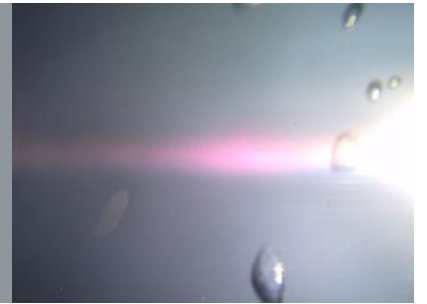
¹⁰ For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

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.

John 16:13

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.

Divine Attributes of the Spirit



Omnipotence

Luke 1:35

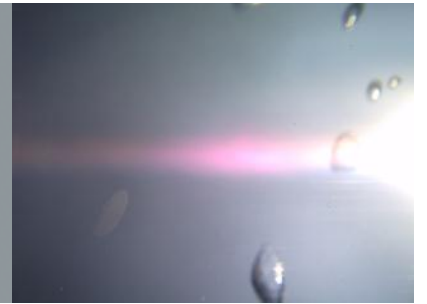
³⁵ The angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God.

Romans 15:18-19

¹⁸ For I will not presume to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me, resulting in the obedience of the Gentiles by word and deed,

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.

Divine Attributes of the Spirit

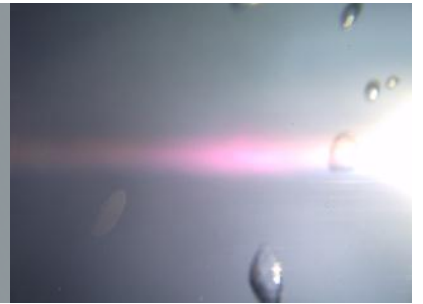


Eternality

Hebrews 9:14

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?

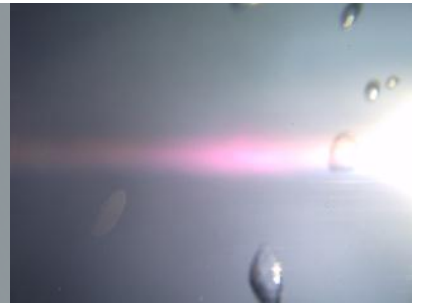
Divine Attributes of the Spirit



Holiness

It is a striking fact that, while the Old Testament repeatedly calls God “the Holy One of Israel,” Ps. 71:22; 89:18; Isa. 10:20; 41:14; 43:3; 48:17, the New Testament seldom applies the adjective “holy” to God in general, but uses it frequently to characterize the Spirit. This is in all probability due to the fact that it was especially in the Spirit and His sanctifying work that God revealed Himself as the Holy One. It is the Holy Spirit that takes up His abode in the hearts of believers, that separates them unto God, and that cleanses them from sin. Berkhof

Divine Attributes of the Spirit



Holiness

Psalm 51:11

¹¹ Do not cast me away from Your presence And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.

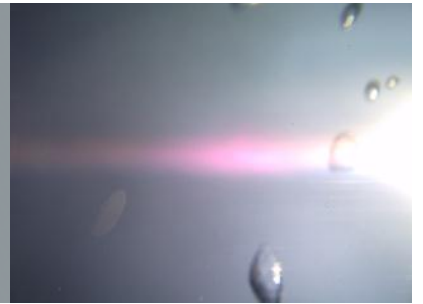
Isaiah 63:10

¹⁰ But they rebelled And grieved His Holy Spirit; Therefore He turned Himself to become their enemy, He fought against them.

Matthew 1:18

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.

Divine Attributes of the Spirit



Truth

John 14:16–17

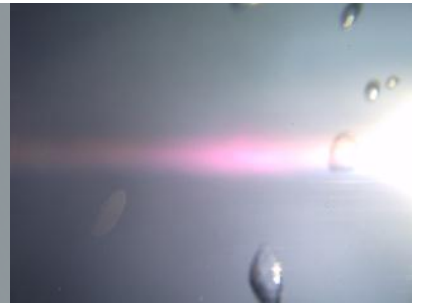
¹⁶ “I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever;

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 15:26

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,

Divine Attributes of the Spirit



Love

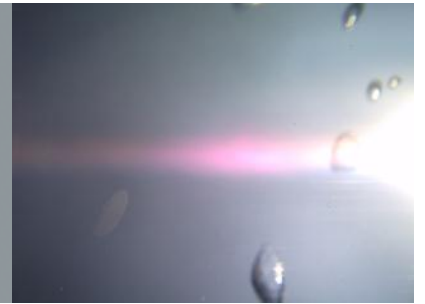
Galatians 5:22

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Romans 5:5

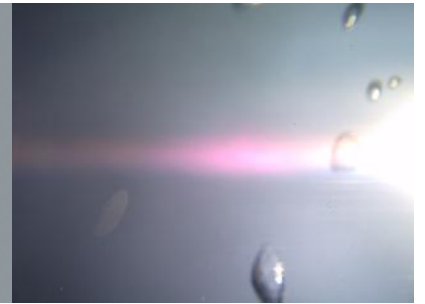
⁵ and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament



The name meets us in the very opening verses of the Old Testament, and it appears there as unannounced and unexplained as in the opening verses of the New Testament. It is plain that it was no more a novelty in the mouth of the author of Genesis than in the mouth of the author of Matthew. But though it is common to both Testaments, it is not equally common in all parts of the Bible. It does not occur as frequently in the Old Testament as in the New. It is found as often in the Epistles of Paul as in the whole Old Testament. It is not as pervasive in the Old Testament as in the New. It fails in no New Testament book, except the three brief personal letters Philemon and II and III John. On the other hand, in only some half of the thirty-nine Old Testament books is it clearly mentioned, while in as many as sixteen all definite allusion to it seems to be lacking. BB Warfield, *The Spirit of God in the Old Testament*

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament



Creation

Genesis 1:2

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.

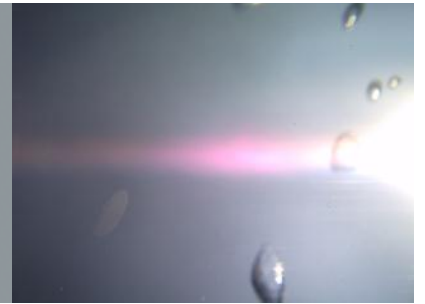
Psalms 33:6

⁶ By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And by the breath of His mouth all their host.

Job 33:4

⁴ “The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament



Creation

Psalm 104:24–30

²⁴ O LORD, how many are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all; The earth is full of Your possessions.

²⁵ There is the sea, great and broad, In which are swarms without number, Animals both small and great.

²⁶ There the ships move along, And Leviathan, which You have formed to sport in it.

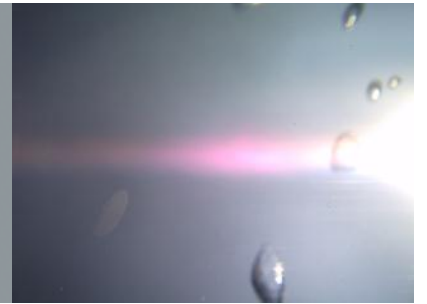
²⁷ They all wait for You To give them their food in due season.

²⁸ You give to them, they gather it up; You open Your hand, they are satisfied with good.

²⁹ You hide Your face, they are dismayed; You take away their spirit, they expire And return to their dust.

³⁰ You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; And You renew the face of the ground.

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament



Giving of Prophecy/Revelation

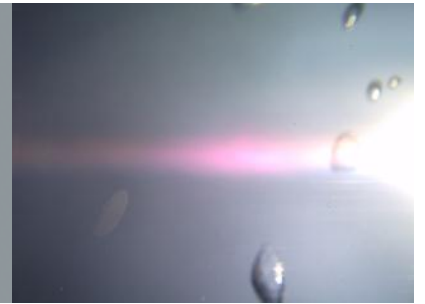
Numbers 24:2

² And Balaam lifted up his eyes and saw Israel camping tribe by tribe; and the Spirit of God came upon him.

Micah 3:8

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.

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament



Prophecy Related to Christ

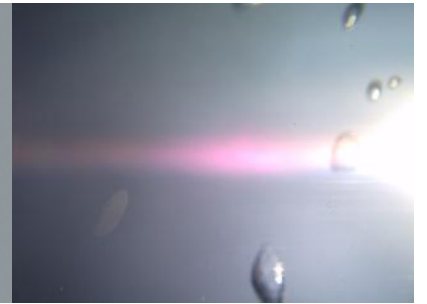
Isaiah 61:1–6 (Lk 4:21)

¹ The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, Because the LORD has anointed me To bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to captives And freedom to prisoners;

² To proclaim the favorable year of the LORD And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn,

³ To grant those who mourn in Zion, Giving them a garland instead of ashes, The oil of gladness instead of mourning, The mantle of praise instead of a spirit of fainting. So they will be called oaks of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament



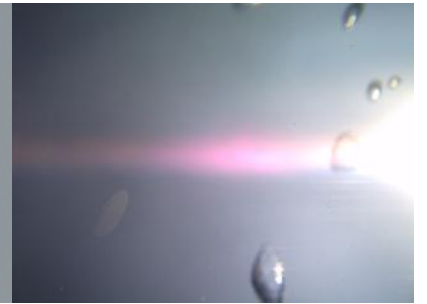
The Holy Spirit is Grieved

Isaiah 63:9–10

⁹ In all their affliction He was afflicted, And the angel of His presence saved them; In His love and in His mercy He redeemed them, And He lifted them and carried them all the days of old.

¹⁰ But they rebelled And grieved His Holy Spirit; Therefore He turned Himself to become their enemy, He fought against them.

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

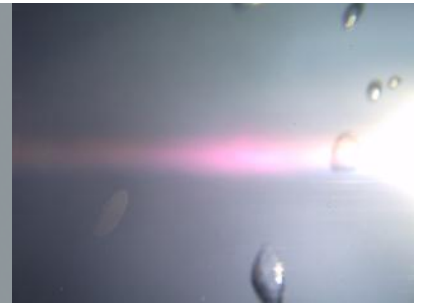


The Holy Spirit Instructs His People

Nehemiah 9:20

²⁰ “You gave Your good Spirit to instruct them, Your manna You did not withhold from their mouth, And You gave them water for their thirst.

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament



Regeneration/Inward Renewal

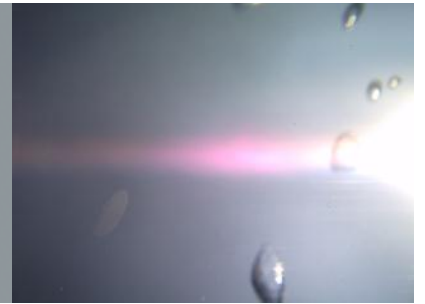
Psalm 51:10–12

¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me.

¹¹ Do not cast me away from Your presence And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.

¹² Restore to me the joy of Your salvation And sustain me with a willing spirit.

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament



Regeneration/Inward Renewal

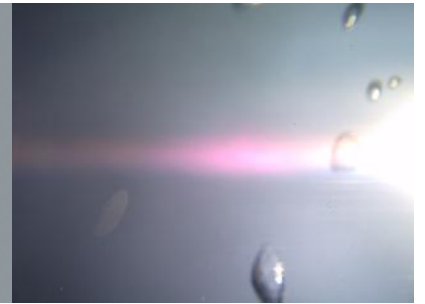
Ezekiel 36:25–27

²⁵ “Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.

²⁶ “Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

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.

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament



Indwelling for a Service or to Fulfill a Task

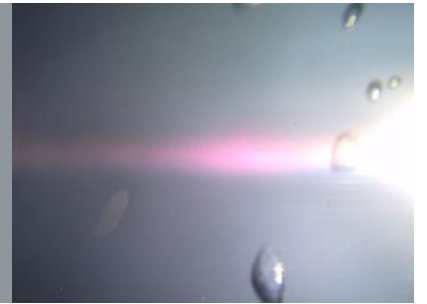
Judges 3:10 (Othniel)

¹⁰ The Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel. When he went out to war, the LORD gave Cushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand, so that he prevailed over Cushan-rishathaim.

Judges 6:34

³⁴ So the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon; and he blew a trumpet, and the Abiezrites were called together to follow him.

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

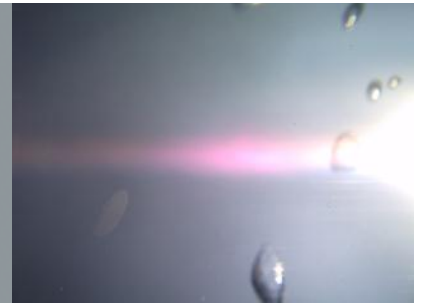


Indwelling for a Service or to Fulfill a Task

Zechariah 4:6

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 in the Old Testament



Indwelling for a Service or to Fulfill a Task

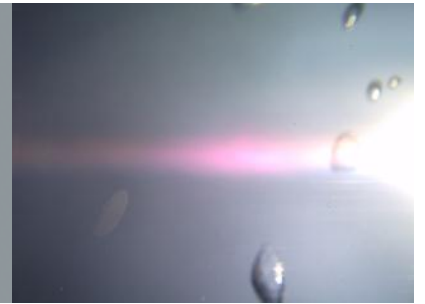
Exodus 31:3–5 (Bezalel)

³ “I have filled him with the Spirit of God in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all kinds of craftsmanship,

⁴ to make artistic designs for work in gold, in silver, and in bronze,

⁵ and in the cutting of stones for settings, and in the carving of wood, that he may work in all kinds of craftsmanship.

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament



The Spirit and Blessing

Isaiah 32:14–18

¹⁴ Because the palace has been abandoned, the populated city forsaken.
Hill and watch-tower have become caves forever, A delight for wild
donkeys, a pasture for flocks;

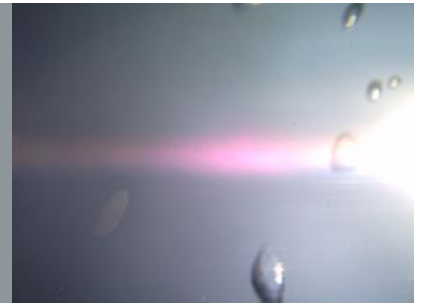
¹⁵ **Until the Spirit is poured out upon us from on high**, And the wilderness
becomes a fertile field, And the fertile field is considered as a forest.

¹⁶ Then justice will dwell in the wilderness And righteousness will abide in
the fertile field.

¹⁷ And the work of righteousness will be peace, And the service of
righteousness, quietness and confidence forever.

¹⁸ Then my people will live in a peaceful habitation, And in secure dwellings
and in undisturbed resting places;

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament



The Holy Spirit's Protection

Isaiah 63:11–12

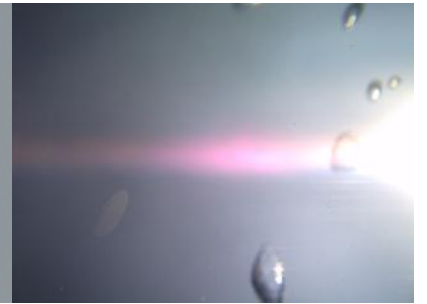
¹¹ Then His people remembered the days of old, of Moses. Where is He who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of His flock? Where is He who put His Holy Spirit in the midst of them,

¹² Who caused His glorious arm to go at the right hand of Moses, Who divided the waters before them to make for Himself an everlasting name,

Haggai 2:5

⁵ 'As for the promise which I made you when you came out of Egypt, My Spirit is abiding in your midst; do not fear!'

The Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ



The Virgin Birth

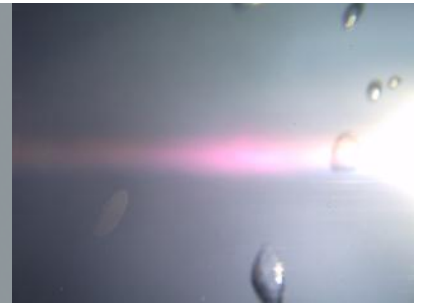
Luke 1:35

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.

Matthew 1:18

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.

The Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ



The Baptism of Christ

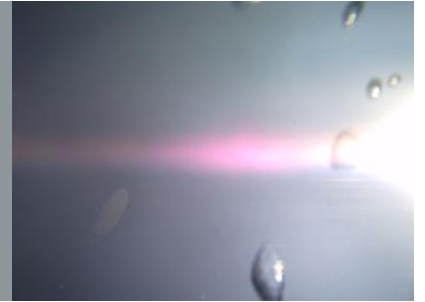
Matthew 3:16

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,

Mark 1:10

¹⁰ Immediately coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens opening, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon Him;

The Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ



The Baptism of Christ

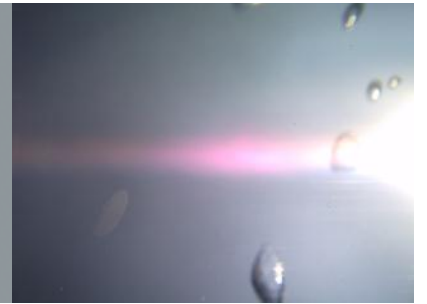
Luke 3:22

²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came out of heaven, “You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased.”

John 1:32

³² John testified saying, “I have seen the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven, and He remained upon Him.

The Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ

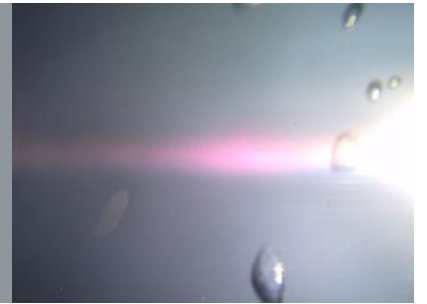


The Holy Spirit filled Christ

Luke 4:1

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led around by the Spirit in the wilderness

The Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ



The Holy Spirit Anointed Jesus to Preach

Luke 4:18–21 (Isa 61:1-2)

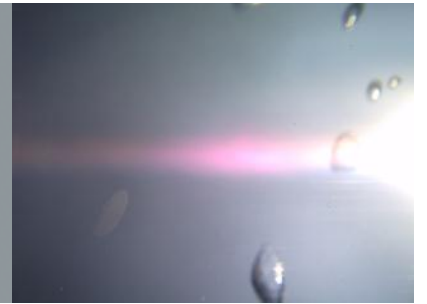
¹⁸ “THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES, AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET FREE THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED,

¹⁹ TO PROCLAIM THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD.”

²⁰ And He closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him.

²¹ And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

The Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ

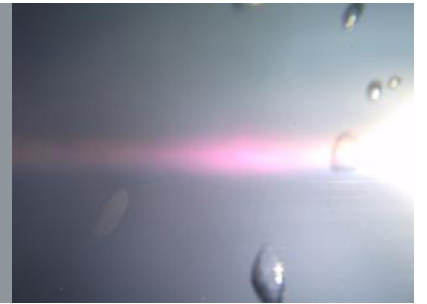


The Holy Spirit Anointed Jesus to Do Good and Heal

Acts 10:38

³⁸ “You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

The Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ



Jesus baptized with the Holy Spirit

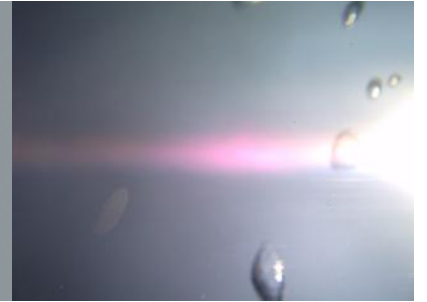
Mark 1:8

⁸ “I baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Matthew 3:11

¹¹ “As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

The Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ



Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit when He was Tempted

Matthew 4:1

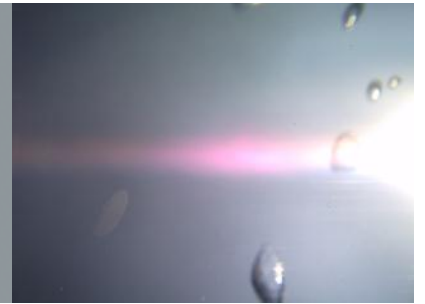
¹ Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

Luke 4:1–2

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led around by the Spirit in the wilderness

² for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And He ate nothing during those days, and when they had ended, He became hungry.

The Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ



Jesus Cast Out Demons by the Power of the Spirit

Matthew 12:25–28

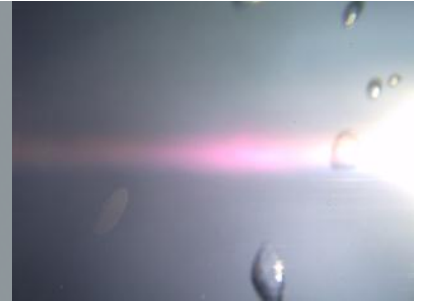
²⁵ And knowing their thoughts Jesus said to them, “Any kingdom divided against itself is laid waste; and any city or house divided against itself will not stand.

²⁶ “If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself; how then will his kingdom stand?

²⁷ “If I by Beelzebul cast out demons, by whom do your sons cast them out? For this reason they will be your judges.

²⁸ “But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

The Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ

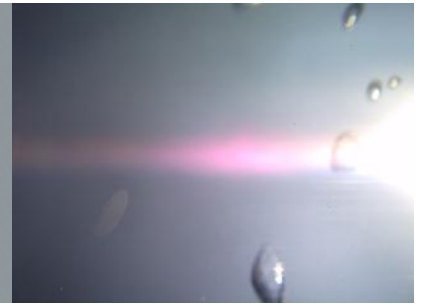


The Holy Spirit and the Death of Christ

Hebrews 9:14

¹⁴ how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

The Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ



The Holy Spirit and the Resurrection of Christ

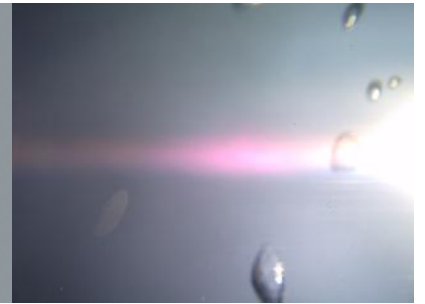
Romans 1:4

⁴ and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,

Romans 8:11

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 Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ



Jesus Promised to Send the Holy Spirit to Believers after His death

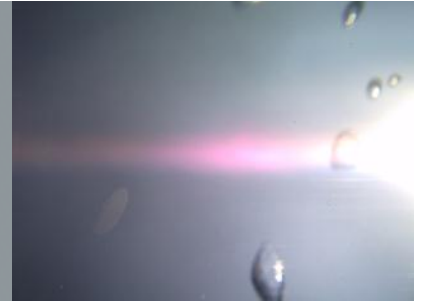
John 14:16–18

¹⁶ “I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever;

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.

¹⁸ “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

The Holy Spirit and the Unbeliever

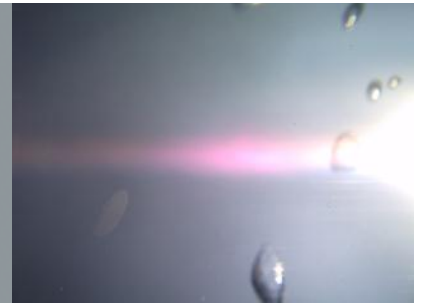


The Holy Spirit Brings Conviction

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.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



The Holy Spirit Gives Life

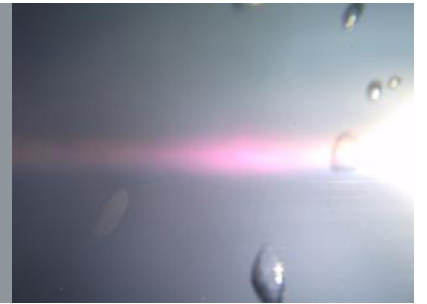
John 6:63

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.

2 Corinthians 3:6

⁶ who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Adoption

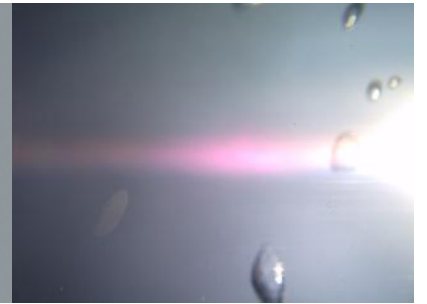
Romans 8:15–17

¹⁵ For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!”

¹⁶ The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God,

¹⁷ and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Adoption

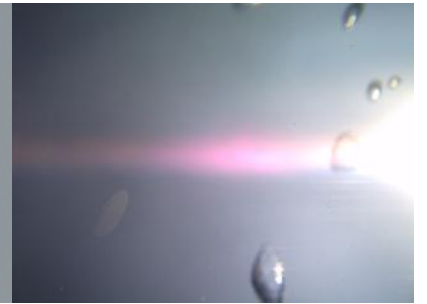
Galatians 4:5–6

⁵ so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

⁶ Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”

In testifying to our being the children of God, the Spirit testifies that we are born of God, that we are objects of his paternal love, and that we are heirs of the inheritance of the saints in life.” Hodge, *Princeton Sermons*, 83ff, taken from *The Beauty and Glory of the Spirit*, Joel R. Beeke, Joseph A Pipa, Jr. p. 180-181

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Regeneration

John 3:5–6

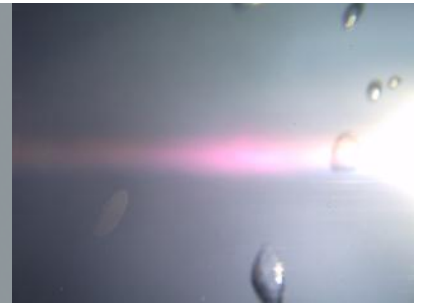
⁵ Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

⁶ “That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Romans 8:11

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 Holy Spirit and the Elect

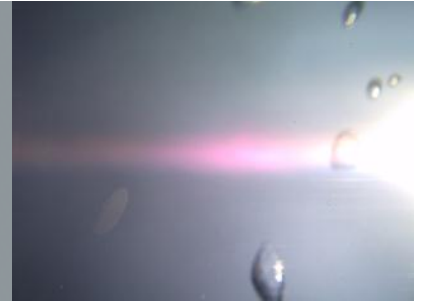


Regeneration

Titus 3:5

⁵ He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,

The Holy Spirit and the Elect

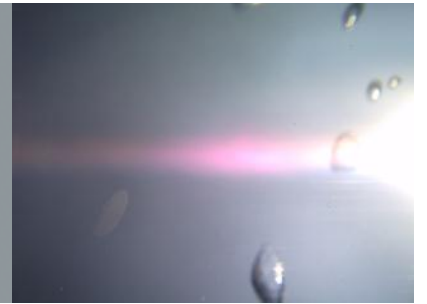


Circumcises of the Heart

Romans 2:29

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.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



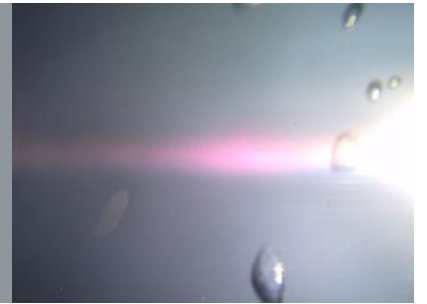
Produces Fruit

Galatians 5:22–23

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Empowers for Ministry

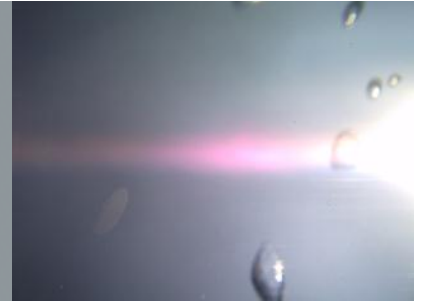
John 14:12

¹² “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.

Acts 1:8

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.”

The Holy Spirit and the Elect

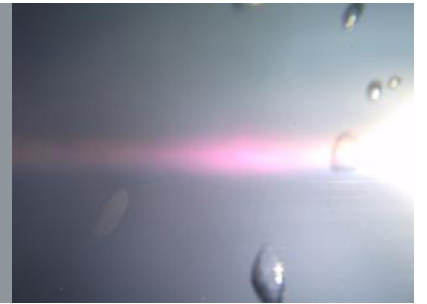


Empowers for Ministry

1 Thessalonians 1:5

⁵ for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Permanently Indwells Believers

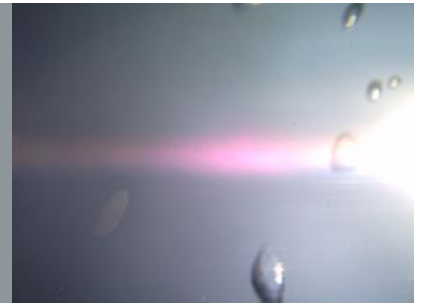
1 Corinthians 3:16

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

1 Corinthians 6:19

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?

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



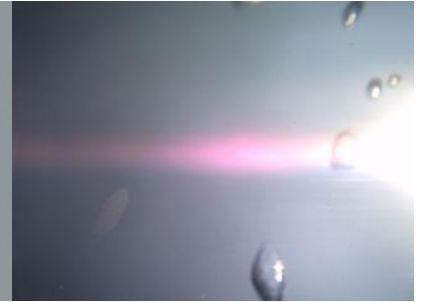
Permanently Indwells Believers

John 14:16–17

¹⁶ “I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever;

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.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



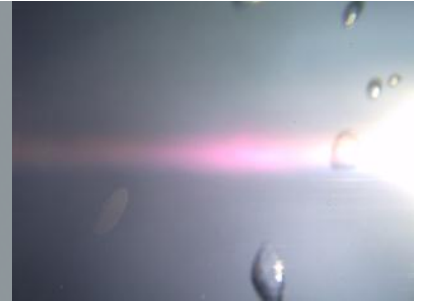
Intercedes

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.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



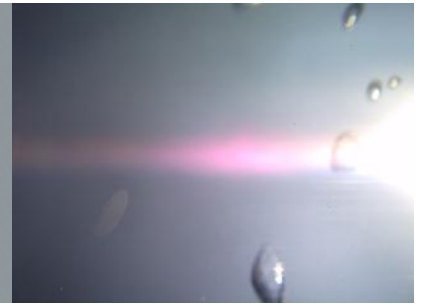
Sanctifies (Positional)

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

⁹ Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,
¹⁰ nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

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.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Sanctifies (Progressive)

Hebrews 12:14

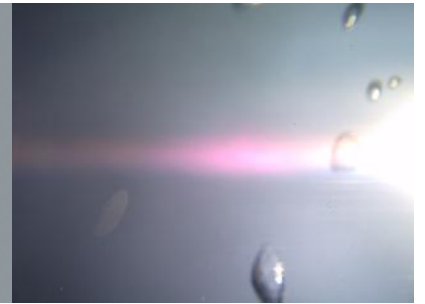
¹⁴ Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.

1 Peter 1:1–2

¹ Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who are chosen

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.

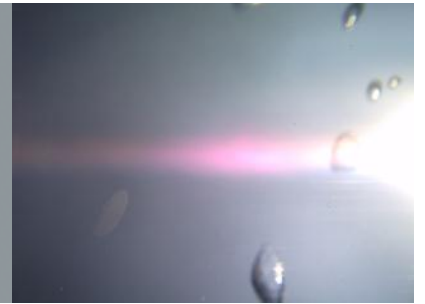
The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Sanctifies (Progressive)

Regeneration was a momentary monergistic act of quickening the spiritually dead. As such, it was God's work alone. Sanctification, however, is in one sense synergistic—it is an ongoing cooperative process in which regenerate persons, alive to God and freed from sin's dominion (Rom. 6:11, 14–18), are required to exert themselves in sustained obedience. God's method of sanctification is neither activism (self-reliant activity) nor apathy (God-reliant passivity), but God-dependent effort (2 Cor. 7:1; Phil. 3:10–14; Heb. 12:14). Knowing that without Christ's enabling we can do nothing, morally speaking, as we should, and that he is ready to strengthen us for all that we have to do (Phil. 4:13), we “stay put” (remain, abide) in Christ, asking for his help constantly—and we receive it (Col. 1:11; 1 Tim. 1:12; 2 Tim. 1:7; 2:1). JI Packer

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Sets Believer's apart for Service

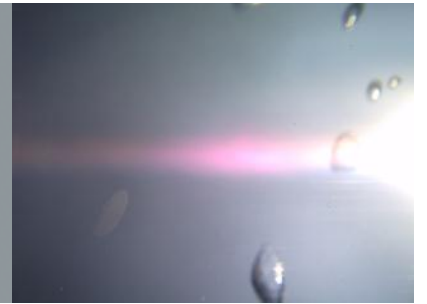
Acts 13:2–4

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.”

³ Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

⁴ So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia and from there they sailed to Cyprus.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Provides Direction for His Servants

Acts 16:6–7

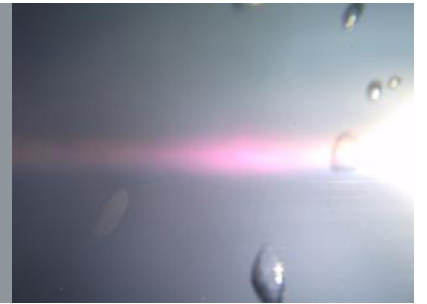
⁶ They passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia;

⁷ and after they came to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them;

*John 16:13

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 and the Elect



We Live Our Lives “by the Spirit”

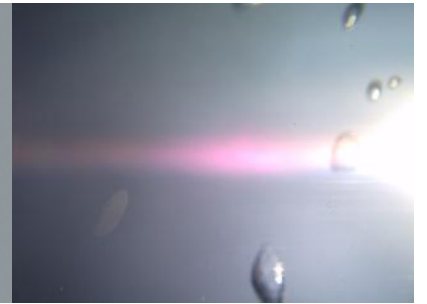
Galatians 5:16–18

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

¹⁷ For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.

¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



We Live Our Lives “by the Spirit”

Romans 8:5–10

⁵ For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

⁶ For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace,

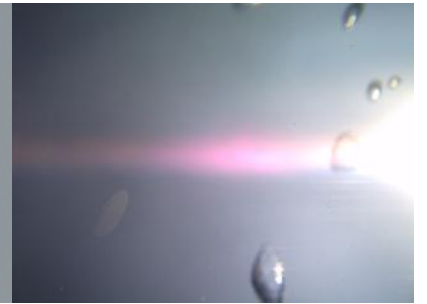
⁷ because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so,

⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

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.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



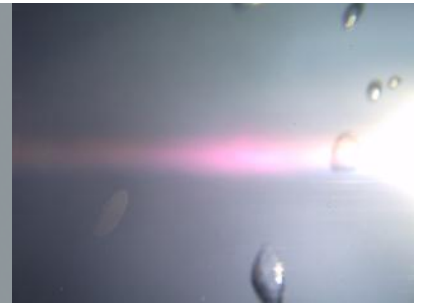
The Holy Spirit Provides Instruction/Understanding

Acts 15:28–29

²⁸ “For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay upon you no greater burden than these essentials:

²⁹ that you abstain from things sacrificed to idols and from blood and from things strangled and from fornication; if you keep yourselves free from such things, you will do well. Farewell.”

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



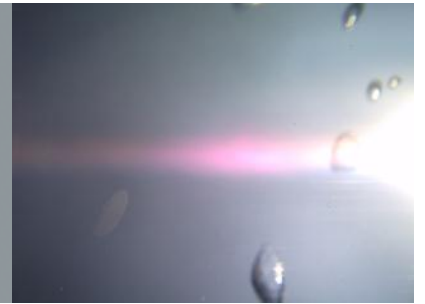
The Holy Spirit Provides Instruction/Understanding

1 Corinthians 2:11–12

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,

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Causes Us to be Built Together into a Dwelling of God

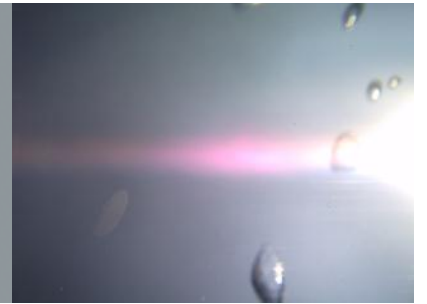
Ephesians 2:20–22

²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone,

²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord,

²² in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Gives Love

Romans 5:5

⁵ and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

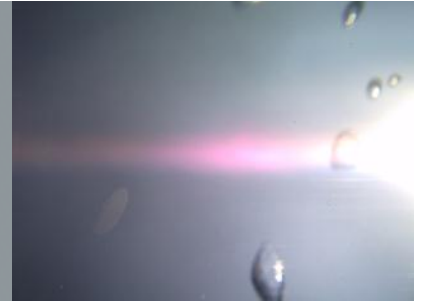
Romans 15:30

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,

Colossians 1:8

⁸ and he also informed us of your love in the Spirit.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Gives Joy

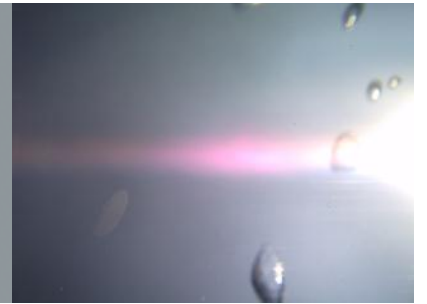
Acts 13:52

⁵² And the disciples were continually filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

1 Thessalonians 1:6

⁶ You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit,

The Holy Spirit and the Elect

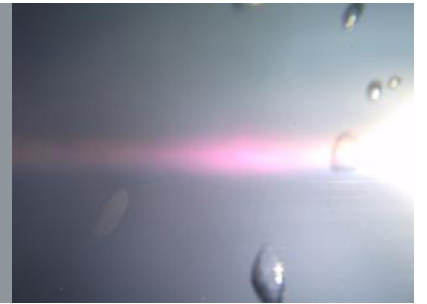


Imparts Truth

John 14:17

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.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect

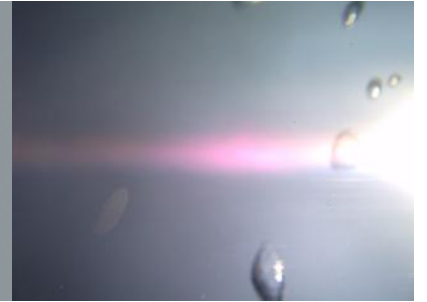


Gives Comfort

Acts 9:31

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.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect

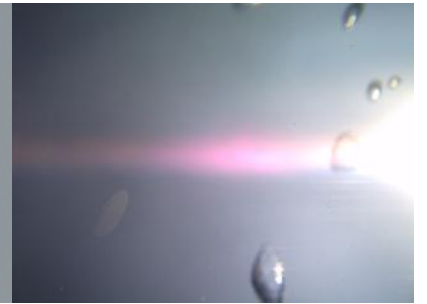


Gives Liberty

2 Corinthians 3:17

¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect

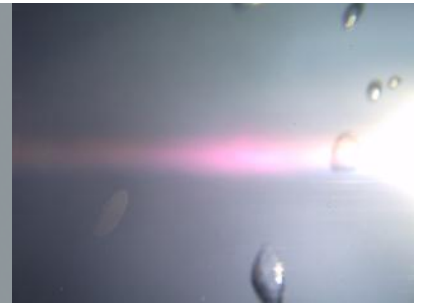


Righteousness, peace and joy

Romans 14:17

¹⁷ for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Gives Hope

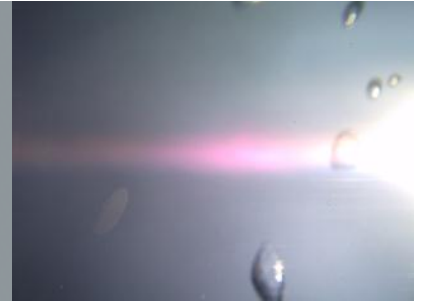
Romans 15:13

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.

Galatians 5:5

⁵ For we through the Spirit, by faith, are waiting for the hope of righteousness.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Brings Unity

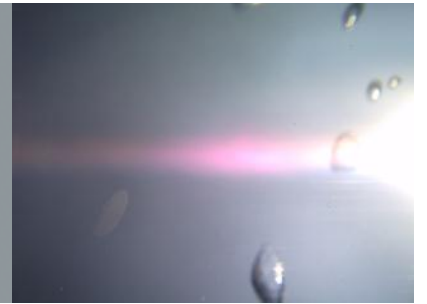
Ephesians 4:3

³ being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

1 Corinthians 12:7

⁷ But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Gives Spiritual Gifts

1 Corinthians 12:4, 11-13

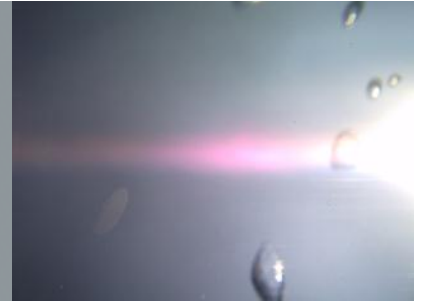
⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.

¹¹ But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

¹² For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ.

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 and the Elect



Seals Believers

2 Corinthians 1:21–22

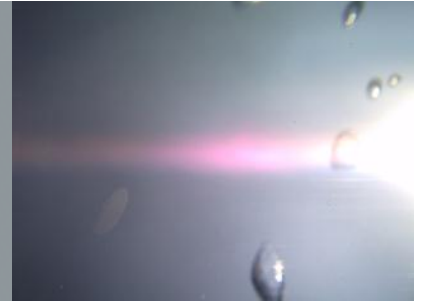
²¹ Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God,

²² who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.

Ephesians 4:30

³⁰ Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



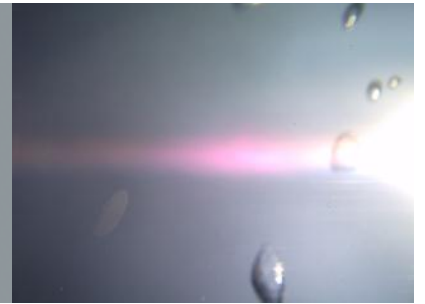
Seals Believers

Ephesians 1:13–14

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,

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.

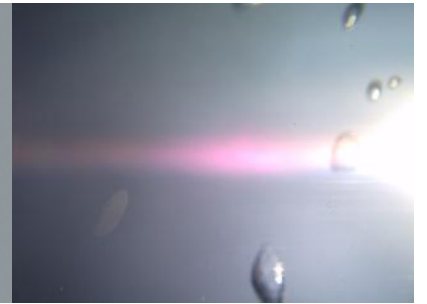
The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Seals Believers

In this age, believers are, by the Spirit, stamped with the mark of eternity as a down payment of its fullness in the new heaven and the new earth. For the believer, that eternity is nothing less than an eternity lived in a body totally transformed by the Spirit into the glorious image of Christ (cf 1 Cor. 15:42-49; 2 Cor. 3:17ff.). *The Beauty and Glory of the Spirit*, Joel R. Beeke, Joseph A Pipa, Jr. p. 174

The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Is a Witness to our Salvation

Romans 8:16

¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

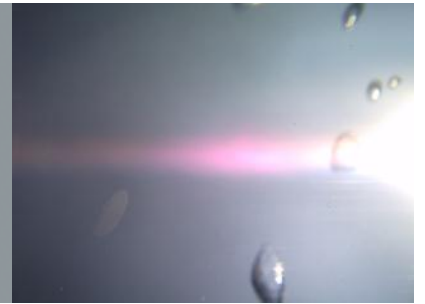
1 John 3:24

²⁴ The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

1 John 4:13

¹³ By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.

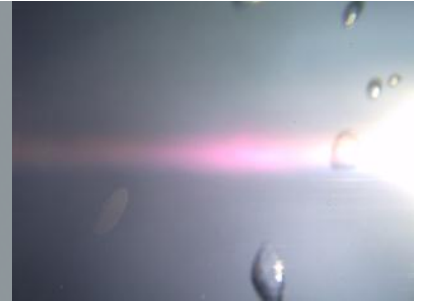
The Holy Spirit and the Elect



Is a Witness to our Salvation

This certainty is not a bare conjectural and probable persuasion grounded upon a fallible hope; but an infallible assurance of faith founded upon the divine truth of the promises of salvation, the inward evidence of those graces unto which these promises are made, the testimony of the Spirit of adoption witnessing with our spirits that we are children of God, *which Spirit is the earnest of our inheritance, whereby we are sealed to the day of redemption* (emphasis mine). Westminster Confession of Faith

The Holy Spirit and the Elect

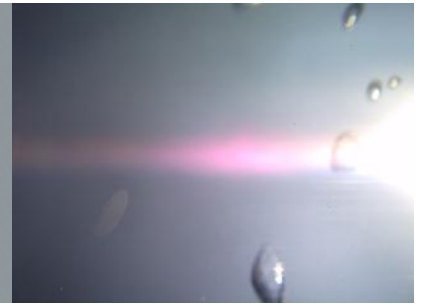


Resurrection

Romans 8:11

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 Holy Spirit and Scripture



The Inspiration of Scripture

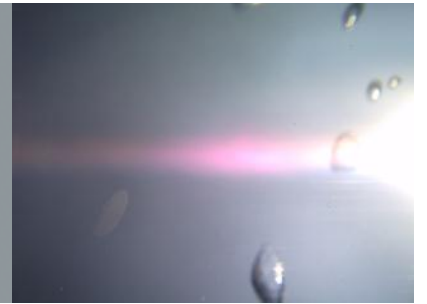
2 Timothy 3:16

¹⁶ All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;

2 Peter 1:21

²¹ for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit



Matthew 12:25–29

²⁵ Knowing their thoughts, he said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand.

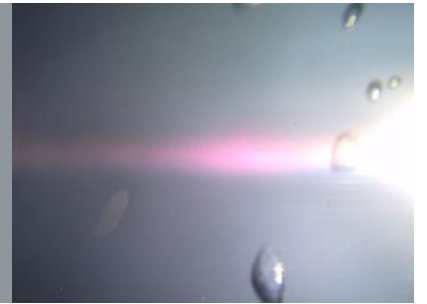
²⁶ And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?

²⁷ And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges.

²⁸ But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

²⁹ Or how can someone enter a strong man’s house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house.

Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit



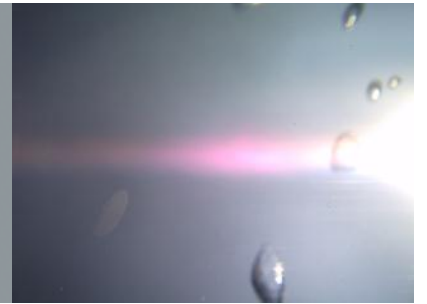
Matthew 12:30–32

³⁰ Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

³¹ Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.

³² And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.

Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit



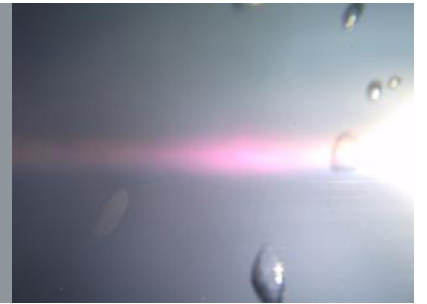
Matthew 12:33–35

³³ “Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit.

³⁴ You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

³⁵ The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil.

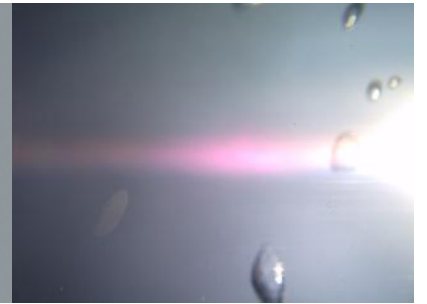
Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit



Mark 3:29

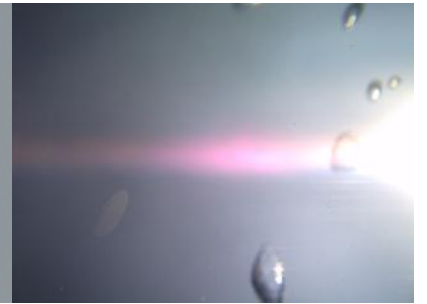
²⁹ but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin” —

Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit



The sin He was confronting was the Pharisees' deliberate rejection of that which they knew to be of God (cf. John 11:48; Acts 4:16). They could not deny the reality of what the Holy Spirit had done through Him, so they attributed to Satan a work that they knew was of God (v. 24; Mark 3:22). MacArthur

Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit

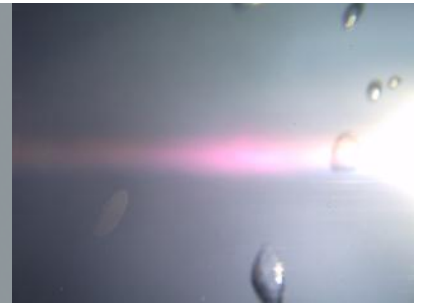


John 11:47–48

⁴⁷ Therefore the chief priests and the Pharisees convened a council, and were saying, “What are we doing? For this man is performing many signs.

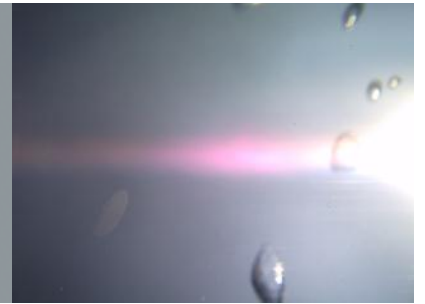
⁴⁸ “If we let Him go on like this, all men will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.”

Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit



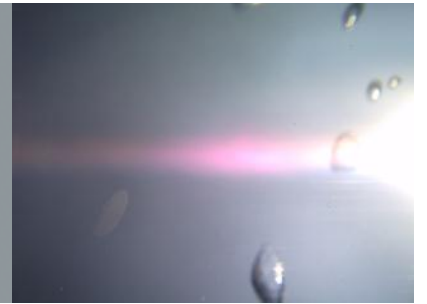
These statements are made in a context in which the Pharisees willfully and maliciously attribute to Satan the powerful work of the Holy Spirit that was evident in the ministry of Jesus. Since the Holy Spirit so clearly manifested the presence of God, those who willfully and maliciously spoke against him and attributed his activity instead to the power of Satan were guilty, Jesus said, “of an eternal sin” (Mark 3:29). Grudem

Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit



Jesus is not saying, All blasphemies that you repent of will be forgiven except blasphemy against the Spirit. He is saying, all blasphemies that you repent of will be forgiven, but blasphemy against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven because it puts you beyond repentance — you won't be able to repent of it. If a sin makes it impossible for you to repent, then that is an unforgivable sin, because forgiveness is promised only to those sins from which we genuinely repent (cf. 4:12). Piper

Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit

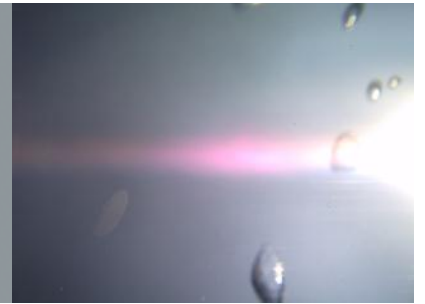


Mark 3:28–29

²⁸ “Truly I say to you, all sins shall be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they utter;

²⁹ but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin” —

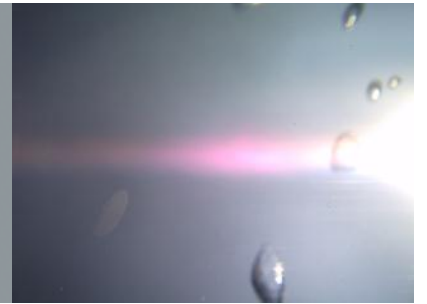
Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit



Why This Particular Sin Makes Repentance Impossible

But why does this one particular sin, this one blasphemy, make it impossible to repent and be forgiven? What about blasphemy against the Son of God, or God the Father, or angels, or Scripture, or the church? Why do these not put us beyond repentance and forgiveness? Why only blasphemy against the Holy Spirit? I think it's because of the unique and decisive role the Holy Spirit plays in our salvation. If we look to God the Father and then turn from his glory to embrace sin, that is bad. If we look to his Son Jesus Christ whom he sent into the world and then turn away from his glory to embrace sin, that is doubly bad. Piper

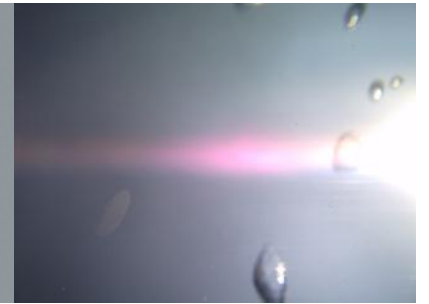
Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit



Why This Particular Sin Makes Repentance Impossible

But in either case there is hope. The Father has planned redemption and the Son has accomplished redemption. This wonderful redemption is outside ourselves and available to us if we repent of our sin and turn back to Christ in faith. But it is the unique and special role of the Holy Spirit to apply the Father's plan and the Son's accomplishment of it to our hearts. It is the Spirit's work to open our eyes, to grant repentance, and to make us beneficiaries of all that the Father has planned and all that Christ has done for us. Piper

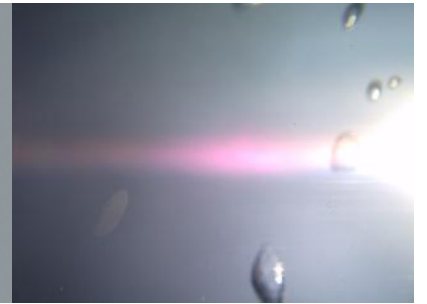
Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit



Why This Particular Sin Makes Repentance Impossible

If we blaspheme and reject the Father and the Son, there is still hope, for the Spirit may yet work within us to humble us and bring us to repentance. But if behind the Father and the Son we see and taste the power of the Holy Spirit and reject his work as no more precious than the work of Satan, we shut ourselves off from the only one who could ever bring us to repentance. And so we shut ourselves off from forgiveness. Piper

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

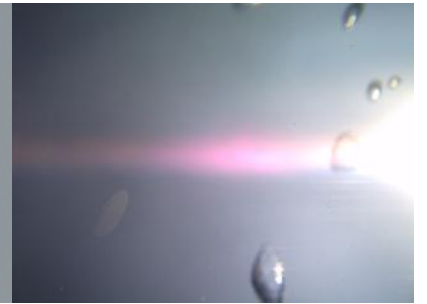


Luke 3:16–17

¹⁶ John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Baptism of the Holy Spirit



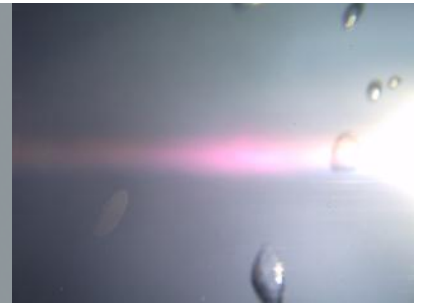
1 Corinthians 12:13

¹³ For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

Acts 1:5

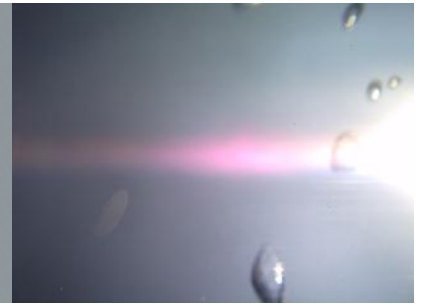
⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

Baptism of the Holy Spirit



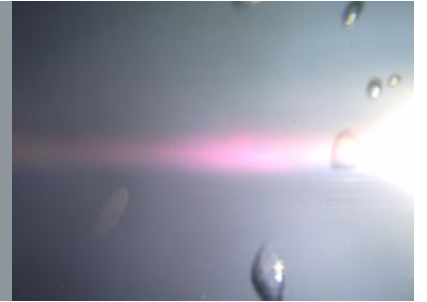
The expression baptism “with/in the Holy Spirit” appears six other times in the New Testament. Five of these texts refer to this very saying of John (Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33; Acts 1:5; 11:16). Acts 1–2 demonstrates that John’s prediction was fulfilled at Pentecost. The sixth reference appears in 1 Cor 12:13, where it is clear that all Christians receive Spirit-baptism. The phrase therefore refers to a ritual that depicts a believer’s initiation into the body of Christ by the indwelling Holy Spirit, who never departs following true conversion and regeneration. Blomberg

Baptism of the Holy Spirit



The baptizing work of the Holy Spirit may be defined as that work whereby the Spirit places the believer into union with Christ and into union with other believers in the Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13). Enns

Baptism of the Holy Spirit



The Baptism of the Holy Spirit:

Is unique to the church age

Includes all believers in this age

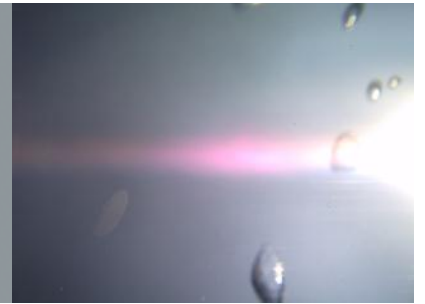
Brings believers in union with Christ

Brings believers in union with other believers in the body of Christ

Is performed by the Holy Spirit

Is not experiential

Gifts of the Holy Spirit



Romans 12:6-8

Prophecy
Service
Teaching
Exhortation
Liberality
Giving
Acts of Mercy

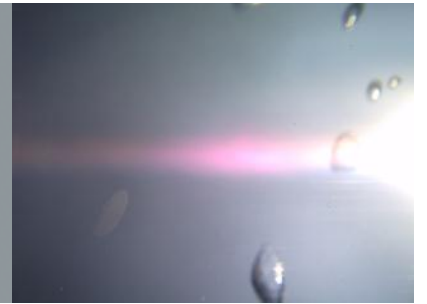
1 Cor. 12:4-11

Wisdom
Knowledge
Faith
Healing
Working of Miracles
Prophecy
Distinguishing spirits
Various tongues
Interpretation

Eph. 4:11

Apostles
Prophets
Evangelists
Pastors and Teachers

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

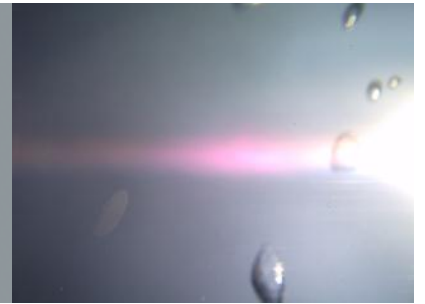


1 Peter 4:11

Speaking

Serving

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

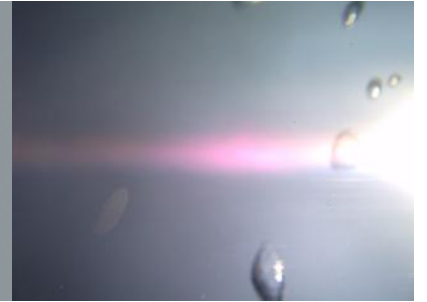


Observations Concerning Spiritual Gifts

The gifts are bestowed on the body (the church). They are for the edification of the whole body, not merely for the enjoyment or enrichment of the individual members possessing them (12:7; 14:5, 12).

No one person has all the gifts (12:14–21), nor is any one of the gifts bestowed on all persons (12:28–30). Consequently, the individual members of the church need each other.

Gifts of the Holy Spirit



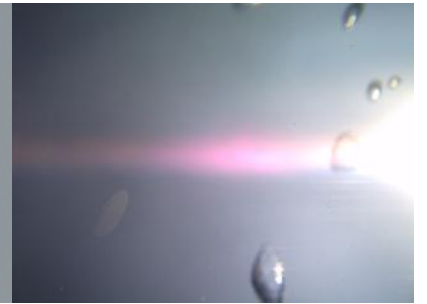
Observations Concerning Spiritual Gifts

Although not equally conspicuous, all gifts are important (12:22–26).

The Holy Spirit apportions the various gifts to whom and as he wills (12:11).

Erickson

Filling of the Holy Spirit



Ephesians 5:18

¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit,

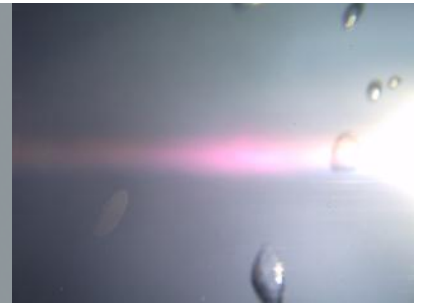
Ephesians 5:19–21

¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;

²⁰ always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;

²¹ and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

Filling of the Holy Spirit

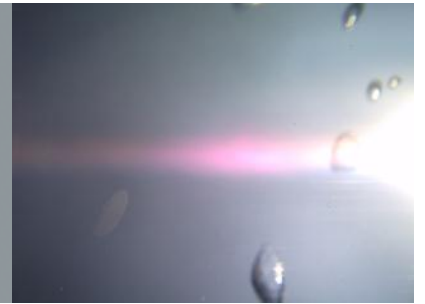


Colossians 3:16–17

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

¹⁷ Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

Filling of the Holy Spirit

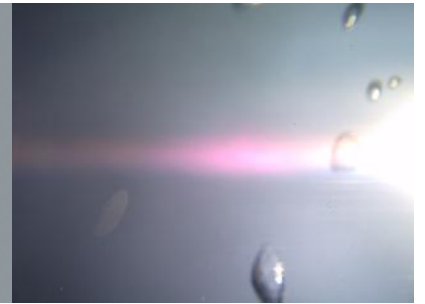


Definition

“To be filled with the Spirit involves confession of sin, surrender of will, intellect, body, time, talent, possessions, and desires. It requires the death of selfishness and the slaying of self-will. When we die to self, the Lord fills us with His Holy Spirit. ...MacArthur

“The filling of the Spirit is not an esoteric, mystical experience bestowed on the spiritual elite through some secret formula or other such means. It is simply taking the Word of Christ (Scripture) and letting it indwell and infuse every part of our being. To be filled with God’s Spirit is to be filled with His Word. And as we are filled with God’s Word, it controls our thinking and action, and we thereby come more and more under the Spirit’s control.” —*John MacArthur*

Grieving the Holy Spirit



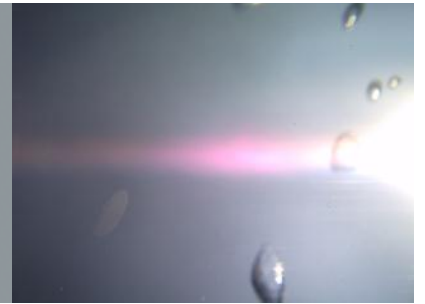
Isaiah 63:10

¹⁰ But they rebelled And grieved His Holy Spirit; Therefore He turned Himself to become their enemy, He fought against them.

Ephesians 4:30

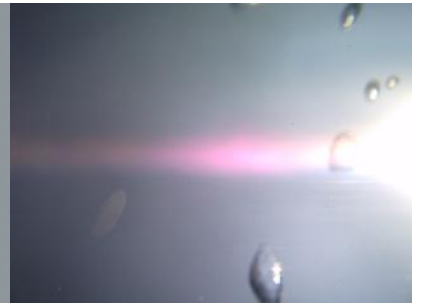
³⁰ Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Grieving the Holy Spirit



By looking to what precedes, and to what follows, we may see what it is that grieves the Spirit of God. In the previous verses it is intimated that all lewdness and filthiness, lying, and corrupt communications that stir up filthy appetites and lusts, grieve the Spirit of God. In what follows it is intimated that those corrupt passions of bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, and malice, grieve this good Spirit. Matthew Henry

Born of Water and the Spirit



John 3:5–8

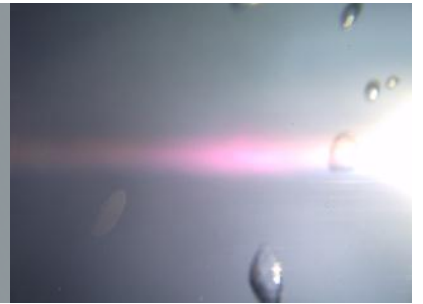
⁵ Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

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.”

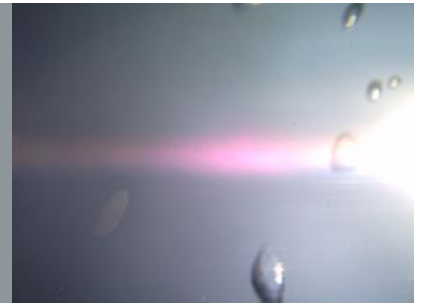
Born of Water and the Spirit



Jesus referred not to literal water here but to the need for “cleansing” (e.g., Ezek. 36:24–27). When water is used figuratively in the OT, it habitually refers to renewal or spiritual cleansing, especially when used in conjunction with “spirit” (Num. 19:17–19; Ps. 51:9, 10; Is. 32:15; 44:3–5; 55:1–3; Jer. 2:13; Joel 2:28, 29). Thus, Jesus made reference to the spiritual washing or purification of the soul, accomplished by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God at the moment of salvation (cf. Eph. 5:26; Titus 3:5), required for belonging to His kingdom.

MacArthur, J., Jr. (Ed.). (1997). *The MacArthur Study Bible* (electronic ed., p. 1581). Nashville, TN: Word Pub.

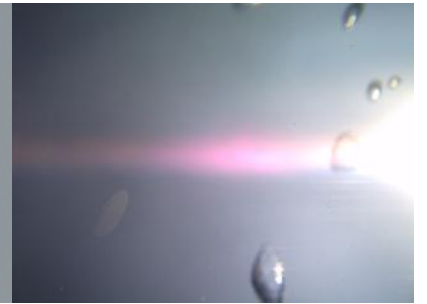
Implications of the Doctrine of the Holy Spirit



The Holy Spirit is a person, not a vague force. Thus, he is someone with whom we can have a personal relationship, someone to whom we can and should pray.

The Holy Spirit, being fully divine, is to be accorded the same honor and respect that we give to the Father and the Son. It is appropriate to worship him as we do them. He should not be thought of as in any sense inferior in essence to them, although his role may sometimes be subordinated to theirs.

Implications of the Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

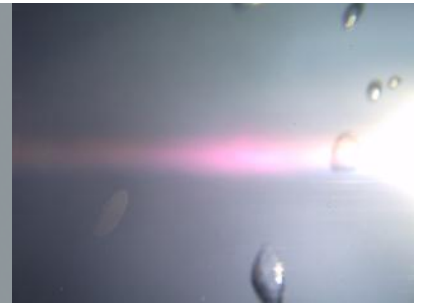


The Holy Spirit is one with the Father and the Son. His work is the expression and execution of what the three of them have planned together. There is no tension among their persons and activities.

God is not far off. In the Holy Spirit, the Triune God comes close, so close as to actually enter into each believer. He is even more intimate with us now than in the incarnation...

Erickson

Implications of the Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

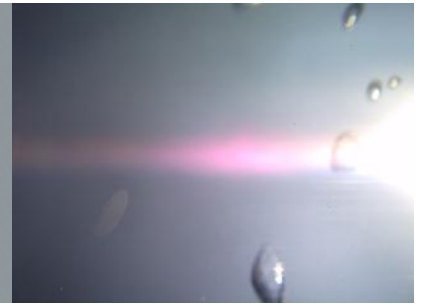


The gifts that we have are bestowals upon us by the Holy Spirit. We should recognize that they are not our own accomplishments. They are intended to be used in the fulfillment of his plan.

The Holy Spirit empowers believers in their Christian life and service. Personal inadequacies should not deter or discourage us.

Erickson

Implications of the Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

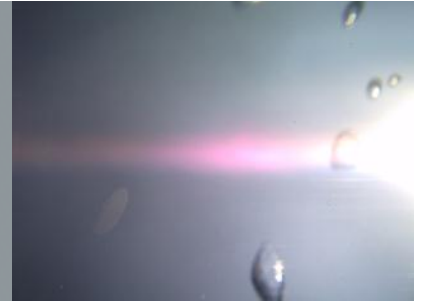


The Holy Spirit dispenses his gifts to the church wisely and sovereignly. Possession or lack of a particular gift is no cause for pride or regret. His gifts are not rewards to those who seek or qualify for them.

No one gift is for everyone, and no one person has every gift. The fellowship of the body is needed for full spiritual development of the individual believer.

Erickson

Implications of the Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

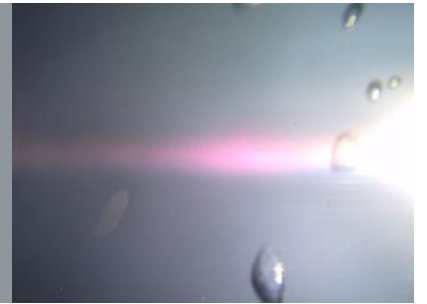


We may rely on the Holy Spirit to give us understanding of the Word of God and to guide us into his will for us.

It is appropriate to direct prayer to the Holy Spirit, just as to the Father and the Son, as well as to the Triune God. In such prayers we will thank him for and especially ask him to continue, the unique work that he does in us.

Erickson

Praying to the Spirit



“Security in the Spirit” John MacArthur –
Romans 8:17-39