

God is a Spirit

Text: I John 5:7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

John 4:19-24 The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet. ²⁰ Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship. ²¹ Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. ²² Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. ²³ But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. ²⁴ **God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.**

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; **It is expedient for you** that I go away: for **if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you;** but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

Introduction: Last Week—Designed and Built by God--THE CHURCH-- THE BRIDE OF CHRIST!
Today: I want to speak on-The ARCHITECT/ DESIGNER HIMSELF-GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT
The Key Verse and Title-- John 4:24 God is a Spirit

I. God is a Spirit-- What is God Like? A question for the ages??? GOD IS A SPIRIT

John 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom (Heart or Center) of the Father, **he (Jesus the Son) hath declared him.**

NIV John 1:18 No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and^[b] is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

II. Man was created by God as a 3-fold being—Body, Spirit, and Soul---

Genesis 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and **man became a living soul.**

I Thessalonians 5:23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. **May your whole spirit, soul and body** be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the **dividing asunder of soul and spirit**, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

The spirit part of man was created so man could communicate and connect with God. God did not give a spirit to any other creature!

The True Worshipper shall--worship the Father in spirit and in truth

III. The Workings of The Holy Spirit in the Earth

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

1. The Restrainer of Evil in the Earth--- Studied LAST WEEK

II Thessalonians 2:7-8 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming.

II Thessalonians 2:7 NIV For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way.

2. The author/writer of the entire Bible

II Peter 1:21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

- a. Holy Spirit guides us into all Truth... Illuminates Scripture and enlightens our understanding
- b. Holy Spirit is the “Quiet Voice” that speaks to us as we read scripture.

3. Believer’s Baptizer- Matthew 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance. but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: **he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:**

My Problem with Organized Religion who deny the reality of the Believer’s Baptism in the Holy Spirit
They have doctrinal issues that cannot be supported or adequately defended by Scripture

Their favorite scripture is: I Corinthians 13:9-10 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. ¹⁰ But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

To use this as a defense and deny the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, is indefensible due to the following:

The scripture that immediately follow their doctrinal foundation--I Corinthians 13:11-12 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.¹² For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

- o *Is our modern church somehow superior to the 1st church? Due to the completed bible and today’s superior wisdom, we no longer need the Holy Spirit???*
- o *Was/is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit a “child’s doctrine” or was it received as an answer to a promise by Jesus?*
- o *Were the 1st church “spiritual children” and we are now “spiritual grownups” when I became a man, I put away childish things???*
- o *Do we no longer “see through a glass darkly”? If so, why is prophesy still disputed and much of it hidden in a cloud of mystery?*
- o *Do we now see “face to face” and understand all wisdom or is there much to be known and seen yet?*

To release a True Believer from a clear scriptural foundation, you must clearly show justification with other scripture. Surely, this is not the case in I Corinthians 13:9-10

Holy Spirit Baptism ended when the last apostle died? If so, give me scripture to back up this doctrine?
CRICKETS, CRICKETS –THERE ISN’T SCRIPTURE— ONLY DENOMINATIONAL DOCTRINE!

Lastly, and most importantly, where is the scripture that states that the Holy Spirit was released from baptizing Believers? CRICKETS, CRICKETS –THERE ISN’T SCRIPTURE— ONLY DENOMINATIONAL DOCTRINE!

THESE ARE DOCTRINAL ISSUES THAT ARE NOT SUPPORTED BY SCRIPTURE!

Other Scriptures that support a Believer’s Baptism

I Corinthians 14:15 What is it then? **I will pray with the spirit**, and I will pray with the understanding also: **I will sing with the spirit**, and I will sing with the understanding also.

Numerous Scripture in Acts such as: Acts 19:1-6 And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, ² He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. ³ And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John’s baptism. ⁴ Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. ⁵ When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

I Corinthians 14:27-28 If any man speak in an unknown tongue, **let it be by two, or at the most by three,** and that by course; and let one interpret. ²⁸ But if there be no interpreter, **let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God.**

I Corinthians 14:39 Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, **and forbid not to speak with tongues.**

4. The Earnest of our inheritance—GOD WITH US-A Believer's downpayment of the soon-to-come eternal presence of God!

Ephesians 1:13b-14 in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

5. The Undefeatable Force that keeps the church safe from dark, evil forces all around

Romans 8:31-32 ³¹ What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

³² He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

6. Giver of the nine Spiritual Gifts for the church

I Corinthians 12:4-11 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. ⁶ And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. ⁷ But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

⁸ **For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; ⁹ To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; ¹⁰ To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues;** ¹¹ **But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.**

7. The Source and Power that allows us to overcome and live a victorious and holy Christian life

Galatians 5:4 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

8. The Source of The Fruit of the Spirit--Christ-like empowerment to live as Jesus lived

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

9. The Anointing Power of the Testifier, the Teacher, and the Preacher

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

10. The Convicting and Drawing Force of Salvation

John 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

11. The "God" Presence in Worship and Praise--- Always exalts Christ

John 16:14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

12. CLOSING, and Last, but certainly not least. HE is the Comforter

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; **It is expedient for you** that I go away: for **if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you;** but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

John 14:15-18 If ye love me, keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; ¹⁷ Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

John 4:14 **God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth!**