

Loris First Baptist Church
“52 Vital Doctrines of The Bible”

Doctrine #15: “God the Holy Spirit: His Advent”

Note: Most information based on pages 91-96 of the book “Major Bible Themes” by Lewis Sperry Chaffer.

Some Important Facts:

1. The coming of the Spirit into the world on the day of Pentecost must be seen in relationship to His work in previous dispensations:
 - A. In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit was in the world as the omnipresent God; yet He is said to “come” into the world on the day of Pentecost.
 - B. During the present age He is said to remain in the world but will “depart” out of the world—in the same sense as He came on the day of Pentecost—when the rapture of the church occurs.
2. In order to understand this truth of the Holy Spirit, various aspects of the Spirit’s relationship to the world should be considered.

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament:

1. Throughout the extended period before the first coming of Christ, the Spirit was present in the world in the same sense in which He is present everywhere, and He worked in and through the people of God according to His divine will:

Genesis 41:38 “So Pharaoh asked them, ‘Can we find anyone like this man (i.e. “Joseph”), one in whom is THE SPIRIT OF GOD?’”

Exodus 31:1-3 “Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and I have filled him with the Spirit of God...’”

Numbers 27:18 “So the LORD said to Moses, “Take Joshua son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay your hand on him.”

Job 33:4 “The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life.”

Psalms 139:7 “Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?”

Haggai 2:4-5 “‘But now be strong, O Zerubbabel,’ declares the LORD. ‘Be strong, O Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land,’ declares the LORD, ‘and work. For I am with you,’ declares the LORD Almighty. ‘This is what I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt. And my Spirit remains among you. Do not fear.’”

Zechariah 4:6 “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but BY MY SPIRIT,’ says the LORD Almighty.’”

2. In the Old Testament the Spirit of God is seen to have a relationship to the creation of the world.
3. He had a part in the revelation of divine truth to the saints and prophets.
4. He inspired the Scriptures which were written, and had a ministry to the world in general in restraining sin, in enabling believers for service, and in performing miracles.
5. All these activities indicate that the Spirit was very active in the Old Testament; however, there is NO EVIDENCE in the Old Testament that the Holy Spirit “indwelt” every believer.
6. Jesus told His disciples that the Holy Spirit was “with” them but would not be “in” them until after His death, burial, and resurrection (i.e. “indwelling of disciples occurred at Pentecost”):

John 14:16-17 “And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives WITH YOU and WILL BE IN YOU.”

Acts 2:1-4 “When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.”

7. Likewise there is no mention of the “sealing” work of the Spirit or of the “baptism” of the Holy Spirit prior to the day of Pentecost.
8. Accordingly, it may be anticipated that “after” Pentecost there would be a greater work of the Spirit than in preceding ages.

The Holy Spirit During the Life of Christ on Earth

1. It is reasonable to suppose that the incarnate, active presence of the Second Person of the Trinity (“Jesus Christ”) in the world would affect the ministries of the Spirit, and this we find to be true:
 - a. In relation to Christ, the Spirit was the generating power by which the God-man was formed in the virgin’s womb.

Luke 1:35 “The angel answered, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.’”

- b. The Spirit is also seen descending, in the form of a dove, upon Christ as the time of His baptism.

Matthew 3:16 “As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on Him.”

c. And it is revealed that it was only through the eternal Spirit that Christ offered Himself to God.

Hebrews 9:14 “How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who THROUGH THE ETERNAL SPIRIT offered himself unblemished to God...”

2. The relation of the Spirit to “men” during the earthly ministry of Christ was “progressive”.

a. Christ first gave assurance to His disciples that they might receive the Spirit by asking for Him.

Luke 11:13 “If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

NOTE: Though the Spirit had previously come “upon” men according to the sovereign will of God, His presence in the human heart *had never before been conditioned upon asking*, and this new privilege was never claimed at that time by any one, as far as the record goes.

b. At the close of His ministry and just before His death, Christ said:

John 14:16-17 “And I will ask the Father, and HE WILL GIVE YOU ANOTHER COUNSELOR to be with you forever— THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for HE LIVES WITH YOU AND WILL BE IN YOU.”

c. Likewise, after His resurrection the Lord breathed on them and said:

John 20:22 “...Receive the Holy Spirit.”

d. But in spite of this “temporary” gift of the Spirit they were to tarry in Jerusalem until they should be endued with power “permanently” from on high:

Luke 24:49 “I AM GOING TO SEND YOU what My Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

Acts 1:4 “On one occasion, while He (i.e. “Jesus”) was eating with them, He gave them this command: ‘Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard Me speak about.’”

The Coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost

1. The Spirit—who as the Omnipresent One had always been in the world—came into the world on the day of Pentecost as promised by both the Father and the Son:

John 14:16 “And I will ask the Father, and HE WILL GIVE YOU ANOTHER COUNSELOR to be with you forever— THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH...”

John 14:26 “But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom THE FATHER WILL SEND IN MY NAME, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”

John 16:7 “But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I WILL SEND HIM TO YOU.”

2. The force of this seeming repetition of ideas is seen when it is understood that His coming on the day of Pentecost was that He might make His abode in the world.

a. God the Father, is omnipresent and makes His abode in “heaven”:

Ephesians 4:6 “...one God and FATHER OF ALL, who is over all and through all and in all.”

Matthew 6:9 “This, then, is how you should pray: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name...’”

b. Likewise God the Son, is omnipresent and now makes His abode at the right hand of the Father:

Matthew 18:20 “For where two or three come together in My name, THERE AM I WITH THEM.”

Colossians 1:17 “He (God, the Son) is before all things, and IN HIM all things hold together.”

Colossians 1:27 “To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is CHRIST IN YOU (i.e. “all believers”), the hope of glory.”

Hebrews 1:3 “The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After He had provided purification for sins, HE SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND of the Majesty in heaven.”

Hebrews 10:12 “But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, HE SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD.”

c. In like manner the Spirit, though omnipresent, is now as to His abode tabernacling here on the earth. The taking up of His abode on the earth was the sense in which the Spirit came on the day of Pentecost.

1) His dwelling place was changed from heaven to earth.

2) It was for this coming of the Spirit into the world that the disciples were told to wait.

3) The new ministry of this age of grace could not begin apart from the coming of the Spirit.

3. The Spirit of God first of all has a ministry to the world to convict the world of sin and of righteousness and of judgment.

John 16:7-11 “But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. WHEN HE COMES, He will CONVICT the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; in regard to RIGHTEOUSNESS, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and in regard to JUDGMENT, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.”

NOTE: This work which prepares an individual to accept Christ intelligently is a special work of the Spirit, a work of grace, which enlightens the Satan-blinded mind of unbelieving men, in respect to three great doctrines:

- a. The unbeliever is made to understand that the sin of unbelief in Jesus Christ as his personal Savior is the one sin that stands between him and salvation.

John 3:18 "Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but WHOEVER DOES NOT BELIEVE STANDS CONDEMNED ALREADY because He has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son."

NOTE: It is not a question of his worthiness, his feelings, or any other factor. The sin of unbelief is the sin which prevents his salvation.

- b. The unbeliever is informed concerning the righteousness of God.

- 1) While on earth Christ was the living illustration of the righteousness of God.

- 2) Upon His departure the Spirit is sent to reveal the righteousness of God to the world.

- a) This includes the fact that God is a righteous God who demands much more than any man can do himself, and this eliminates any possibility of human works being the basis for salvation.

- b) More important, the Spirit of God reveals that there is a righteousness available by faith in Christ and that when one believes in Jesus Christ he can be declared righteous, justified by faith, and accepted by his faith in Christ, who is righteous both in His person and in His work on the cross.

Romans 1:16-17 "I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel A RIGHTEOUSNESS FROM GOD is revealed, A RIGHTEOUSNESS THAT IS BY FAITH from first to last, just as it is written: 'The righteous will live by faith.'"

Romans 3:22 "This RIGHTEOUSNESS FROM GOD comes through faith IN JESUS CHRIST to all who believe..."

Romans 4:4-5 "Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, HIS FAITH IS CREDITED AS RIGHTEOUSNESS."

- c) The fact is revealed that the prince of this world, that is, Satan himself, has been judged at the cross and is doomed to eternal punishment.

NOTE (1): This reveals the fact that the work on the cross is finished, that judgment has taken place, that Satan has been defeated, and that salvation is available to those who put their trust in Christ.

NOTE (2): While it is not necessary for an unbeliever to understand completely all these facts in order to be saved, the Holy Spirit must reveal enough so that as he believes he intelligently receives Christ in His person and His work.

NOTE (3): There is a sense in which this was partially true in ages past, as even in the Old Testament it was impossible for a person to believe and be saved without a work of the Spirit. However, in the present age, following the death and resurrection of Christ, these facts now become much more clear, and the work of the Spirit in revealing them to unbelievers is part of the important reason for His coming into the world's sphere and making it His residence.

4. In His coming to the world on the day of Pentecost, the work of the Spirit in the church took on many new aspects. These will be considered in later chapters.

a. The Holy Spirit is said to regenerate every believer:

John 3:3-7 "In reply Jesus declared, 'I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.' 'How can a man be born when he is old?' Nicodemus asked. 'Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!' Jesus answered, 'I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God UNLESS HE IS BORN OF WATER AND THE SPIRIT. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but THE SPIRIT GIVES BIRTH TO THE SPIRIT. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with EVERYONE BORN OF THE SPIRIT."

Titus 3:5 "...not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of REGENERATION and renewing of THE HOLY SPIRIT..."

b. The Holy Spirit indwells every believer:

John 7:37-39 "On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, 'If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.' BY THIS HE MEANT THE SPIRIT, whom those who believed in Him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified."

Acts 11:15-17 "As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as He had come on us at the beginning. Then I remembered what the Lord had said: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' So if God gave them the same gift as He gave us, WHO BELIEVED IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, who was I to think that I could oppose God?"

Romans 5:5 "And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out His love INTO OUR HEARTS by the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us."

Romans 8:9-11 "You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God LIVES IN YOU. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead IS LIVING IN YOU, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies THROUGH HIS SPIRIT, WHO LIVES IN YOU."

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 “Do you not know that your body is A TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, WHO IS IN YOU, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.”

c. As indwelling the believer, the Holy Spirit is our “seal” unto the day of redemption:

Ephesians 4:30 “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, WITH WHOM YOU WERE SEALED FOR THE DAY OF REDEMPTION.”

d. Further, every child of God is baptized into the body of Christ by the Spirit:

1 Corinthians 12:13 “For we were all BAPTIZED BY ONE SPIRIT into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.”

NOTE (1): All these ministries apply equally to every true believer in this present age.

NOTE (2): In addition to these works that are related to the “salvation” of the believer, there is the possibility of the “filling” of the Spirit and of “walking” by the Spirit which opens the door to all the ministry of the Spirit to the believer in the present age. These great works of the Spirit are the key not only to salvation but to effective Christian living in the present age.

Ephesians 5:18 “Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.”

Galatians 5:16 “I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”

Galatians 5:25 “If we live in the Spirit, let us also WALK IN THE SPIRIT.”

Summary of the Advent of the Holy Spirit

1. When the purpose of God in this age is brought to “completion” BY THE RAPTURE of the church, the Holy Spirit will have accomplished the purpose of His special advent into the world and WILL DEPART from the world in the same sense that He came on the day of Pentecost.
 - a. A parallel can be seen between the coming of Christ to the earth to accomplish His work and His departure into heaven.
 - b. Like Christ, however, the Holy Spirit will continue to be omnipresent and will continue a work after the rapture similar to that which was true before the day of Pentecost.
2. The present age is, accordingly, in many respects the age of the Spirit, an age in which the Spirit of God is working in a special way to call out a company of believers from both Jew and Gentile to form the body of Christ.
3. The Holy Spirit will continue to work after the rapture, as He also will in the kingdom age—which will have its own special characteristics and probably will include all the ministries of the Holy Spirit in the present age except that of the baptism of the Spirit.

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Doctrine # 15: “God the Holy Spirit: His Advent”

1. Read Pages 1-7 from the Doctrine#15 Study Guide by next Wednesday.
2. Answer the following Questions about “God the Holy Spirit” as you read:

a. Some Important Facts About The Holy Spirit:

1. True or False. The Holy Spirit was not involved in the activities of God in the world until He came down into the world at Pentecost. (page 1, top; see also Gen 41:38; Ex 31:1-3)

2. When do some biblical scholars believe that the Holy Spirit will “depart” out of the world in the same sense that He “came” into the world on the day of Pentecost? (page 1, top)

b. The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament:

1. Who did Pharaoh of Egypt believe “indwelt” Joseph (the son of Jacob)? (Genesis 41:38)

2. To whom did the book of Job give credit for making mankind? (Job 33:4)

3. In the Old Testament book Zechariah, through whom did the Lord say He would accomplish miraculous things? (Zechariah 4:6)

4. True or False. The Scriptures reveal that all believers in the Old Testament were “indwelt” with the Holy Spirit, just like the believers in the New Testament. (page 2, top)

5. What major prophetic event occurred which changed the activities of the Holy Spirit on the earth and how He interacts with believers? (Acts 2:1-4)

6. Which member of the “Trinity” generated the power by which Jesus Christ was formed in the virgin Mary’s womb? (page 2, bottom; Luke 1:35)

7. When did the “Spirit of God” descend upon Jesus Christ like a dove? (page 2, bottom; Matt 3:16)

8. Through what means did Jesus Christ offer Himself “unblemished” to God? (page 3, top; Heb 9:14)

9. Jesus assured His disciples that their Father in heaven would give the Holy Spirit to them if they would do what? (page 3, top; Luke 11:13)

10. Jesus told His disciples that after His own death, burial, and resurrection, He would ask His Father to send the Holy Spirit to no longer just live “with” them, but to do what? (John 14:16-17)

11. True or False. In John 20:22, the disciples of Jesus Christ were “permanently” indwelt with the Holy Spirit when He breathed on them. (page 3, middle; Luke 22:49; Acts 1:4; Acts 2:1-4)

c. The Coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost

1. In John 14:26, who did Jesus promise that His Father would send in His name?

2. In John 16:7, who did Jesus say would send the “Counselor” (i.e. Holy Spirit) to His disciples?

3. Where does God the Father make His “abode”? (page 4, top; Matthew 6:9)

4. Where does God the Son currently make His “abode”? (page 4, top; Hebrews 1:3; Hebrews 10:12)

5. Where is God the Holy Spirit currently making His “abode”? (page 4, middle-bottom)

6. What is the major ministry of the “Spirit of God” to the whole world while He is on the earth?
(page 4, bottom; John 16:7-11)

7. Who does the work of grace sufficiently to enlighten the “Satan-blinded” mind of an unbelieving man to prepare that individual to accept Christ “intellectually”? (page 5, top)

8. True or False. Every human being is “condemned” by God (because of their sin) even “before” they choose to either “believe” or “not believe” in the name of God’s one and only Son?
(John 3:18)

9. What is “THE” sin which prevents salvation? (page 5, top)

10. Upon Jesus Christ’s departure, the Holy Spirit was sent to reveal what? (page 5, middle)

11. According to Romans 1:16-17, what is revealed in the gospel?

12. In the eyes of God, what is “credited” as even a “wicked” man’s “righteousness”? (Romans 4:4-5)

13. True or False. In order for a person to be “truly” saved, he must understand completely ALL the facts of how God credits a person’s faith as his righteousness as it is revealed in Scripture and made understandable by the Holy Spirit. (page 6, top)

14. According to Titus 3:5, How did God save us?

15. According to John 7:39, what had to occur first before the Holy Spirit could be given by the Father to “indwell” the hearts of believers?

16. According to Romans 8:9-11, where does the Holy Spirit live (in relation to a believer)?

17. True or False. It is possible to be a “saved” Christian and NOT be indwelt by the Holy Spirit. (Romans 8:9)

18. According to Ephesians 4:30, why do believers know they can NOT lose their salvation?

19. How is a believer placed within the “body of believers” (i.e. the universal church!)? (1Cor 12:13)

20. What are we instructed to do in Galatians 5:16 to prevent fulfilling the “lust of the flesh”?

21. The Holy Spirit made His “advent” into this world at the Day of Pentecost. What prophetic event will lead to His “departing” this world in relation to His work in this present age? (page 7, bottom)

22. What does it mean when it is said that in the present age, the New Testament reveals that in many respects we are living in the “age of the Spirit”? (page 7, bottom)

23. True or False. The Holy Spirit will continue to work in the world after the rapture of the church similar to what He is doing in the present age with the exception of the “baptism of the Spirit”. (page 7, bottom)