

Person and Work of the Holy Spirit 5

The Spirit Brings Personal Intimacy with God

- I. The highest type of divine communication is Spirit to spirit.
 - A. You are spirit. (John 3:6) The soul and the body may experience some effects from the presence of the Holy Spirit (John 3:8), but only your spirit is in direct contact with God.
 - B. Proverbs 20:27 The spirit is where God shines His light so we can see our path. He is dealing with us in spirit – illuminating the inward rooms.
 - C. 1 Corinthians 2:9-16
 - 1. Verses 10-12 The Spirit of God is given to us in order to share with us the most intimate thoughts of God.
 - 2. Verse 13 Comparing = *sugkrino* - to judge one thing in connection with another, to combine or collate ideas and impressions. God takes His ideas and applies them to my perceptions and situations. His thoughts are shared with me through the **co-perception** of His Spirit with my spirit. The two are really inseparable.
 - a. Sspirit – coffee illustration. Dr Fee – “God’s Empowering Presence”
 - b. To collate – the two are indivisible
 - c. INTIMACY - We are created to communicate with God heart to heart. Adam – man to man/ Abraham friend to friend / Moses face to face
 - 3. Verse 14 The natural (soulish) man cannot grasp the things of the Spirit. Spiritual things are often difficult to convey in mental terms, even to believers. Beware of emotions – wait for the peace of God)
 - 4. Spiritual things must be grasped in the spirit, not the head. Many Christians are still trying to receive the things of God with their mind and through effort of will.
- II. A key to victorious Christian living is knowing the voice of your spirit as it receives impression from the Holy Spirit.
 - A. Becoming spiritually minded:
 - 1. The Spirit of God dwells in you.
 - 2. As long as we look for an external sign or an emotional feeling or some prophecy, we will miss God. The Body of Christ is full of Christians frantically running from place to place to hear from a God who abides within them all the

time. (prophecy in the new covenant is for edification, exhortation, and comfort 1 Cor 14:3)

3. Hab 2:20 We look for Him to speak in silence
4. Col 3:15 Amp And let the peace (soul harmony which comes) from Christ rule (act as umpire continually) in your hearts [*deciding and settling with finality all questions that arise in your minds, in that peaceful state*] to which as [*members of Christ's*] one body you were also called [*to live*] Don't move until you have peace.
5. Ps 92:3/9:16 / 19:14 Higgsion – a meditation, esp to musical accomp. From to murmur. Take time to listen to the murmurings of your Heart! Remember Jn 4:14 a spring

B. John 14:17-18

1. To the world He says:
 - a. You can't see Him even when He moves. You can't see Him because you look with your eyes.
 - b. You can't know Him or grasp Him with the mind. He is not mentally intelligible. Beware Christianity as an intellectual enterprise.
2. To those present He said, "He is standing right here with you."
 - a. To those who would believe, He predicted:
 - b. He will be in you. Jesus was predicting His own indwelling by the Spirit.
 - c. He promised a close, intimate personal knowledge. Note V 20.

III. The abiding presence of the indwelling Spirit is the first great reality of the Christian life.

- A. Romans 8:9 If He's not in you , you're not saved.
- B. Romans 8:16 The Spirit gives evidence in your spirit. This is our first contact as believers, our introduction to the indwelling Spirit. Where do you know that you are a child of God?
- C. We are not marked on the outside, we don't have a membership card, but we have an awareness of communion on the inside.
- D. 1 John 4:13-16 We have a three-fold testimony in our hearts.
 1. The witness of the Spirit
 2. Faith in the Person and Work of Jesus Christ

- 3. Love: His for me and mine for others: selflessness is a uniquely Christian attribute (moved with compassion –what breaks your heart?)
- E. 1 John 5:9-13 God wants us to know that we have eternal life, not by intellectual reasoning, but by the witness of the Spirit in our heart. This is something which cannot be stolen.
- F. That place in your heart where you know you're saved, that God loves you, that Jesus is who He said He is, that is the location of your human spirit, the place of interaction with God the Spirit.