

Systematic Theology Chapter 30

The Holy Spirit's Work

Pages 778-800

1. In the Old Testament the presence of God was manifested in theophanies. In the gospels, the Son of God manifests the presence of God among men. What is the primary manifestation of the Trinity after Jesus ascended into Heaven and throughout the entire church age?
2. "And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places" (Isaiah 32:14-18). What blessings does the Holy Spirit bring?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
3. Match the following words:

Justification	a continual act
Sanctification	a one-time act
4. What is the primary activity of the Holy Spirit? In what areas and in what ways is the Spirit working in this way in your life?
5. How is the Holy Spirit especially present in the preaching of the Word?
6. What do Pentecostals mean when they speak of people being "slain in the Spirit"? Is this a Biblical concept? Explain.

7. Dr. Luke, the author of Acts, says about the early church, “and they devoted themselves to the apostles teaching in the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers” (Acts 2: 42). Read the beautiful description of these early Christians in Acts 2:42-47. What was the early church devoted to? Why? What are you devoted to? (A clean house? Laundry? Shopping? Sports events? Grandkids? Me-time? A T.V. show? Scrolling Facebook?) What changes need to happen in your devotion to the community of believers?

8. Describe the nature of the speaking in tongues that occurred on Pentecost Sunday. Did these early Christians speak in genuine human languages?

9. Why do the Reformed churches hold to **cessationism** (the idea that the extraordinary gifts of the Spirit like 1) doing miracles, 2) receiving new revelations, and 3) speaking in tongues **ceased** with the end of the apostolic era? What “ordinary” gifts (gifts that are also supernatural!) of the Holy Spirit do we continue to receive?

10. Read I Corinthians 12 about the gifts of the Spirit. What is your spiritual gift and how are you using it for the good of the body?

11. Did Old Testament believers experience the Holy Spirit? Give two examples, with references, to how the Holy Spirit worked in the lives of believers in the Old Testament.
 - a.
 - b.

12. Give two examples, with references, about how the Holy Spirit worked through the New Testament apostles.
 - a.
 - b.

13. What guidance did Philip receive from the Holy Spirit in Acts 8: 29?

14. Use a commentary to help you discover what it means that Paul was, “constrained by the Spirit” in Acts 20: 22-23? Explain.

15. John 16: 7-11 reads, “Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And when He comes, He will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment: concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; concerning judgment because the ruler of this world is judged.” Who is the Helper? How does He help us?

16. Is it better for Jesus’ followers to have the Holy Spirit than to have a physical Jesus on earth? Do we believe Jesus when he says, “Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.” (John 16:7) Explain.

17. As you read this chapter of the book, make a list of the qualities the Holy Spirit produces.

18. How do we know that the Spirit indwells us? Give two ways in which we know that He indwells us. Provide biblical proof.

19. What should we be asking the Holy Spirit to do in our lives? Write a prayer asking for these things.

20. Quite often we worry more about how people will respond to us than we do about how the Holy Spirit of God will respond. We think about making our friends mad or not being accepted or being thought of as different or strange. But rarely (if we ever) do we consider whether our actions or lifestyle are grievous to the Spirit of the Living God." (F. Chan) Is this true of you? Why is this?
21. What does it mean to *quench* the Holy Spirit? Give a real-life example.
22. Explain what it means to *grieve* the Holy Spirit? Have you ever grieved the Holy Spirit? When?
23. How does the Holy Spirit give to us a deep sense of assurance? Do you have the assurance of your salvation?
24. Have you experienced the Holy Spirit's activity of bringing to your remembrance the words of Jesus? (John 14: 26)
25. How is knowledge that the Holy Spirit lives in believers an incentive to keep yourself holy? Give Biblical texts.
26. Are you daily living in the awareness of the Holy Spirit's presence? How?
27. Have you been baptized by the Spirit? What does this mean? Compare this to what do Pentecostals mean by this statement.