

Doctrine for Dummies

Lesson 4

The Holy Spirit

The third Person of the Trinity is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit possesses all the divine attributes of eternity, omnipresence, omniscience, omnipotence, and holiness. He is called by many names such as the Spirit of God, the Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of Truth, the eternal Spirit, the Comforter, and God in us. In several passages the Spirit appears as distinct from God such as at Jesus' baptism when He descended to Jesus as the Father spoke (Luke 3). He is distinct from Jesus in that after Jesus ascended to heaven in Acts 1, the Holy Spirit descended to indwell the Apostles in Acts 2.

1. What part did the Holy Spirit have in creation (Gen 1:2, Job 33:4, Ps 104:30)? Did the Holy Spirit "come upon" people in the Old Testament (Ex 31:3, Numbers 11:17, Judges 15:14, 1 Samuel 16:13)?
2. Did the Spirit also leave people from time to time (1 Sam 16:14, Judges 16:20, Ps 51:11) in the O.T.? Did the Holy Spirit speak through the prophets in the O.T (Micah 3:8, Isaiah 61:1)? How did Peter explain the way that prophecy from God was given (2 Peter 1:20-21)?
3. In His last discourse to His disciples before the crucifixion, Jesus made it clear that He was leaving them for an extended time, yet what good news did He have for them in John 14:16-17? How long would the Spirit of truth be with them (Jn 14:16)?
4. Would the Holy Spirit have a teaching ministry to believers in Christ (Jn 14:26; 16:13)? Who would the Spirit reveal, magnify, and glorify (John 15:26; 16:14)?

