



God the Holy Spirit—parts 2 & 3  
From sermon 10.6.19

Read *Titus 3:4-6*

Questions, Answers, and Review from the last two sermons: The work and ministry of the Holy Spirit is wondrous and varied. His transforming work in the life of the believer is often misunderstood and neglected. There is no aspect of salvation, sanctification, and glorification that He is not critical in producing. Many of His works are one-and-done in the shaping of the Christian—others are ongoing, progressive, and increasing.

What were the five important works of the Holy Spirit, presented in these sermons, and how would they be described?

1. Regeneration— the first work of the Spirit in bringing the spiritually dead person to life. Only then can He convict them of sin, show the need for a Savior, convey the Only Savior is Jesus Christ as revealed in Scripture, grant faith that leads to repentance and receiving Christ.

See *Ephesians 2:1-5*

2. Indwelling—the second work (although pretty much instantaneous with Regeneration) by which the Spirit in now permanently IN every believer. Our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who now empowers, reminds, equips, guides, convicts, leads in worship, speaks in evangelism.

See *1 Corinthians 6:19-20, John 14:26 & Luke 12:11-12*

3. Sealing—the beautiful work of spiritually marking us as God's treasured possession forever. This is our down payment, our guarantee, our earnest that what God has begun will be carried out to completion in glory. See *Ephesians 1:13-14*

4. Baptism—spiritual act, by which, the Spirit joins us to Christ—His body (the Church). The believer dies to sin/self and is alive in Christ. All human distinction is rendered irrelevant (race, gender, status, education, heritage, ...). For service in the local church, each is given a spiritual gift.

5. Filling—ongoing ministry of the Spirit. He refreshes and replenishes the believer for their spiritual walk and obedience and service. Many things drain/crowd out the effective power of the Spirit—some good—some bad. Being filled results in much blessing, discernment, and growth.

See *Galatians 5:16 & 22*. Discuss time and ministry being Spirit drainers.

From that verse 22, what blessings and traits mark the Spirit-filled Christian? Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

In the converse, then, what conditions and behaviors mark the unfilled Christian? Loveless, no joy, lack of peace, impatience, bitterness, sickness, failure, harshness, swinging sword of guilt....

Discuss the debate between Faith preceding Regeneration vs. Regeneration preceding Faith. We believe even faith is a gift of grace. See *Ephesians 2:8*. A dead spirit cannot see the truth of Gospel nor exercise faith. God the Holy Spirit must make a spirit alive, grant faith and spiritual eyes, then the regenerated can respond, feel, grow, obey....The Lazarus Illustration.

How does sin hinder/quench the work of the Spirit? He will not empower for planned sin

What are some practical things you can do to stay in step with the Spirit and be filled? Various personal answers.