

The work of the Holy Spirit – part 2

While waiting to begin...

Please look at Romans 8:9-10 and ask this question: Who lives “in” the Christian?

“You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.”

1. The Holy Spirit and God’s Word = recap: see last week

Not “revelation”...

E.g. Ephesians 2:20, “... foundation” of the church already established

But “illumination”

E.g. Ephesians 6:17, “... the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”

E.g. Romans 12:1-2, Hebrews 5:14

Q: Miracles?

God can do – and actually does do – whatever he wants.

- Nothing is too hard for him – e.g. Jeremiah 32:17
- “God, in His ordinary providence, makes use of means, yet is free to work without, above, and against them, at His pleasure” – Westminster Confession of Faith, 5.3

Biblical expectations:

- In the Bible miracles come in “patches”
- 2 Corinthians 12:12, “The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with utmost patience, with signs and wonders and mighty works.”
- Be thankful for all God’s kindnesses... seek to live by faith and not by sight...

2. The Holy Spirit and the Son of God

Together in creation, Genesis 1:1-2 and John 1:3

Together in Jesus’ earthly ministry (as the incarnate Son of God)

- conception and birth of Jesus, Luke 1:31,35.
- at Jesus’ baptism, Luke 3:21-22, Mark 1:10, Acts 10:38.
- Jesus baptizes with the Spirit, John 1:33.
- crucified through the eternal Spirit, Hebrews 9:14.
- raised and vindicated by the Spirit, Romans 1:4, 1 Timothy 3:16, 1 Peter 3:18.
- Christ’s resurrection body is a spiritual body, 1 Corinthians 15:44.

He is the “Jesus-shaped Spirit”

1 Corinthians 15:45 “Thus it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.”

2 Corinthians 3:17 “Now the Lord is the Spirit...”

Revelation 3:1 “And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: ‘The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.’”

Revelation 5:6 “And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.”

→ **** He works to bring Jesus to us ****

See [John 14:15-18](#) – “another Helper”... “I will come to you” (also Romans 8:9-10)

3. The Holy Spirit in the Christian

He gives new life

John 3:5, 8, “Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.””

Christians have every spiritual blessing in union with Christ

See [Ephesians 1:3](#),

1 Corinthians 12:13, “For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves^l or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.”

Every believer has the Spirit (no second blessing)

See [Ephesians 1:13](#)

He gives gifts to all believers to build up the church

See, e.g., [Ephesians 4:11-16](#)

So, seek to be filled with the Spirit

[Ephesians 5:18-21](#)

... compare to Colossians 3:16-17, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”

The Holy Spirit works to sanctify us

See, e.g., [Galatians 5:16-26](#)