

# THE ROLE OF THE HOLYSPIRIT

(Editor's Note: This article, adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin's Bible study course The Holy Spirit and His Gifts, is the second of two Timeless Teachings on the importance of following God's direction through the Holy Spirit and your born-again human spirit. The first article appeared in April. As a New Testament believer, you have God inside you to help you walk in His perfect will for you!)

It is significant to notice in the Scriptures that there are two groups of nine in connection with the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer:

1. The nine *fruit* of the spirit, which are a result of the Holy Spirit's *indwelling Presence*.

2. The nine *gifts* of the Spirit, which are a result of the Holy Spirit's *infilling* power.

Let's take a look at the ninefold manifestations of the fruit of the born-again human spirit that is a result of the Holy Spirit's indwelling Presence. Paul lists them in Galatians 5.

## GALATIANS 5:22-23

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

In John 15:5, Jesus told the disciples, "I am the vine, ye are the branches. . . ." Where does fruit grow? It grows out on the branches!

This fruit that Paul is talking about in Galatians 5 is the fruit of the recreated, born-again human spirit, growing within the believer's life as a result of the life of the Holy Spirit *within*.

We see a biblical example of the *fruit* of the born-again human spirit in Luke 24:51–52 *before* the Day of Pentecost when the disciples were "filled with the Holy Spirit."

## LUKE 24:51-52

51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.

52 And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.

According to Galatians 5:22, joy is a fruit of the born-again, recreated human spirit. We see in this passage in Luke 24 that the disciples had great joy, but they were not yet filled with the Holy Spirit. Therefore, the fruit of the spirit could not be a result of the baptism in the Holy Spirit, for the Day of Pentecost had not yet come.

This scripture shows that the disciples already had one of the fruit of the spirit, joy, *before* they were endued with power from on High. In fact, they had *great* fruit, because the Bible says they had great joy (v. 52)!

As we yield to God and obey His Word, the life of the Holy Spirit within us causes us to grow continually in love, joy, and peace, as well as the other fruit of the spirit. So we can see that one of the main purposes of the indwelling Presence of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer is for *fruit bearing*.

We notice in John 14:16–18 in *The Amplified Bible* that the Holy Spirit is a Comforter, a Counselor, a Helper, an Intercessor, an Advocate, a Strengthener, and a Standby.

## **JOHN 14:16–18** (Amplified)

16 And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, and Standby), that He may remain with you forever—

17 The Spirit of Truth, Whom the world cannot receive (welcome, take to its heart), because it does not see Him or know and recognize Him. But you know and recognize Him, for He lives with you [constantly] and will be in you.

18 I will not leave you as orphans [comfortless, desolate, bereaved, forlorn, helpless]; I will come [back] to you.

Notice Jesus said the Holy Spirit would be our Comforter, Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, and Standby. We don't need anything more than that. Many believers have missed the reality of what the Holy Spirit came to do in us on a continual basis.

Too often when Christians need help, they run around frantically almost in a frenzy—trying to find someone to pray for them. They cry the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you" (John 16:7).

The Holy Spirit is our Guide: "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth..." (John 16:13). Not only will the Holy Spirit guide us into all truth, but Jesus said (speaking to God the Father), "... Thy word is truth" (John 17:17). The Holy Spirit will also guide us into the truth of God's Word.

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on one person's shoulder and then on another's, shed a few "crocodile tears," and quote a few scriptures. But when they are alone, they are in just about the same mess they were in to begin with. They forget that on the inside of them, they have a Helper. They don't have to pray for a Helper; they already have the Helper within.

Jesus said in John 16:7 that the Holy Spirit would be our Comforter. Jesus also said, "... It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away,

The Holy Spirit will guide us in all the affairs of life. "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God" (Rom. 8:14). No one can be guided or led, however, without placing themselves in the hands of the Guide.

It is useless to pray to God, "Lord, guide me. Give me directions," unless you are going to allow yourself to be guided.

By way of illustration, when we visit some unfamiliar place and a guide is there to escort us, if we don't follow the (continued on page 14)

## FAITH IN ACTION

## God For Us, With Us, and In Us

The New Testament gives us three relations that God sustains toward man. First, God is *for* us. Second, God is *with* us. And third, God is *in* us.

To have God be for us guarantees our success: "... If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Rom. 8:31). If God is for you, and you know that He is for you, you become utterly fearless in life.

You can also have the assurance that not only is God for you, but in every place in life and in every situation, God is with you. No matter what the circumstances may be, if you are a Christian, the Lord is with you (Matt. 28:20; Heb. 13:5).

Under the covenant in the Old Testament, God was for Israel and with Israel, but he was not in Israel except for where His Presence dwelled within the Tabernacle or Temple. However, in the New Testament, God is with us and for us, but we also have something better—God is in us. God is actually making His home in our body, which is His temple (1 Cor. 6:19).

After God recreated us and made us new creatures in Christ and made us His own, then He, in the Person of the Holy Ghost, chose to dwell within us. Now the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead dwells in us (Rom. 8:10–11)!

guide, there would be much that we wouldn't understand and we might even get lost. The guide is there to explain certain things to us and show us the way to go.

Certainly no one would want to go through Carlsbad Caverns, for instance, without a guide. It is pitch black inside those caverns. We would never get out of Carlsbad Caverns if we failed to follow the guide. But the guide knows right where to turn on the lights. (Thank God, the Holy Ghost knows right where to turn on the lights!)

That is the reason many folks have gotten into such a mess in life—they were not following the Guide. The Holy Spirit will guide us, but in order to be guided in life, we have to

us a clue as to how believers are to be guided under the New Covenant.

## **JEREMIAH 31:33**

33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel: After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

This Old Covenant promise was fulfilled in the New Birth—in the recreation of man's spirit.

## 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Where does God make us a new

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put ourselves into His hands.

When you have guidance, you can be prepared ahead of time, for the Bible says the Holy Spirit will show you things to come (John 16:13). He will guide you into all truth, and He will also guide you and lead you in all the affairs of life.

During the many years I've traveled on the evangelistic field leaving my wife and small children at home, I've depended upon my Guide, the Holy Spirit. He has always warned me ahead of time of a need in my family. Although many times, I had no communication with my family, I always knew by the Spirit of God when a member of the family was sick.

The Holy Spirit is not in me to help me just because I am a preacher. If you are a believer, He is in you to help you too. And if you will learn to listen to Him and look to Him, He will guide you.

Under the Old Covenant in Jeremiah 31:33, God speaks of the New Covenant that He would be establishing with His people. This verse gives

creature? In our *heart*, or *spirit*, by the regeneration of the Holy Spirit (Titus 3:5).

God said He would put His law in our "inward parts"—in our heart, or spirit. It is by the Holy Spirit that God's laws are written in our heart (2 Cor. 3:3).

Because you are born again, you will know by the Holy Spirit living on the inside of you what to do in every situation in life, for He is your Guide into all truth (John 16:13). Just look on the inside; check to see what the Holy Spirit within your human spirit is leading you to do (Rom. 8:14).

The Holy Spirit, our Helper, has made His home in us as believers. All that we could ever need Him to be *for us*, He is. He is our Comforter, our Guide, our Counselor, and our Teacher. He is the Greater One in us Who puts us over in life.

If we are conscious of Him Who dwells within us and if we believe God's Word, then no matter what or whom we face in life, we will have no fear. The Greater One Who lives in us is greater than he who is in the world. He will put us over in life!