

Christian Doctrine

The Holy Spirit (Part 2)

The Holy Spirit's Activities

Key Works of the Holy Spirit

To get a better idea of who the Holy Spirit is, let us take a close look at what He has done. Key works of the Holy Spirit are seen throughout different time periods of history:

During the Old Testament Times

- He “hovered” over the earth at creation, overseeing and caring for the creative work (Gen. 1:1-2; Ps. 104:30).
- He empowered certain people for service. He “came upon” individuals such as Gideon (Judges 6:34), Samson (Judges 13:25), Saul (I Sam. 10:10) and David (I Sam. 16:13). He was said to be “in” others, such as Joseph (Gen. 41:38) and Joshua (Num. 27:18).
- He was the revealer of God’s message. He spoke through the prophets (II Sam. 23:2; II Kings 7:1) and inspired the writers of the Old Testament (as He did with the New Testament) writers, “moving” them as what to write (II Pet. 1:21).
- His gave revelation that predicted and pointed people to the coming Messiah (Is. 11:1-2; 61:1-2; I Pet. 1:10-11).

During the Life of Christ

- He was involved in the conception of Jesus in the womb of the virgin Mary (Matt. 1:18, 20; Luke 1:35).
- He descended from heaven at Jesus’ baptism and anointed Jesus (Is. 61:1-2; Matt. 3:16-17; Acts 10:38).
- He filled and empowered Jesus Christ during His earthly ministry (Luke 4:1, 14, 18; Matt. 12:28).

After the Ascension of Christ

- He was the fulfillment of Christ’s promise to send a Helper (John 14:16-17, 26; Acts 2:1-4).
- He came to testify of and give glory to Christ (John 15:26; 16:14-15).
- He came to convict the world (John 16:8-11).

The ministry of the Holy Spirit after Christ’s ascension took on several other aspects never seen or experienced before. These aspects reveal the Holy Spirit’s work in the period we live in today, referred to as the “Church Age.” We will look at these in detail in the upcoming lessons.

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