

The Doctrines Of The Faith



What The Bible Says About...

PNEUMATOLOGY Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

"A Study In Truth"

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Pneumatology

Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

by Pastor Art Kohl

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The Doctrines Of The Faith — A Study In Truth Series

Pneumatology

Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

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Introduction:

We will develop our beliefs about the Holy Spirit by studying Him and His working in 6 parts:

1. The Deity of the Holy Spirit
2. The Personality of the Holy Spirit
3. The Ministries of the Holy Spirit
4. The Names, Titles and Symbols of the Holy Spirit
5. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit
6. The Fruit of the Holy Spirit

I. The Deity Of The Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit, though He is a tremendous power and influence in the emotions and will of people, nevertheless – above all else – is a Person, and that Person is God!

A. He Is Called God

“But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.” (Acts 5:3-4). “Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.” (2 Corinthians 3:17).

B. He Is Part Of The Trinity

“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.” (1 John 5:7).

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the **name** of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:” (Matthew 28:20). Notice the word “name” (singular) not “names” (plural). See also Matthew 3:16-17 ; 4:1; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 Peter 1:2. Notice the equality shared by the Holy Spirit with the Father and the Son.

C. He Is Omnipresent

He is all present. “And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;” (John 14:16). See also Psalm 139:7.

D. He Is Omniscient

He is all-knowing. “But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.” (John 14:26). Also 1 Corinthians 2:10-11.

E. He Is Omnipotent

He is all powerful. “The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life.” (Job 33:4).

Read Genesis 1:2; Job 26:13; Psalm 104:30.

F. He Is Eternal

“How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal

Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" (Hebrews 9:14).

II. The Personality Of The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit of God is a Person, *just as much* as the Father and Son are Persons. Therefore, He experiences all the elements involved within a personality.

A. He Is Male

"Howbeit when **he**, the Spirit of truth, is come, **he** will guide you into all truth: for **he** shall not speak of **himself**; but whatsoever **he** shall hear, that shall **he** speak: and **he** will shew you things to come." (John 16:13). Jesus called the Holy Spirit "He," "Him," or "Himself" 20 times in John 14-16. See also how He is referred to in the male gender in Hebrews 10:15; 1 Corinthians 12:11; 2 Thessalonians 2:7; Acts 13:2.

B. He Has A Mind

"And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God." (Romans 8:27).

C. He Has A Will

"But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will." (1 Corinthians 12:11).

D. He Forbids

"Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia, After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not." (Acts 16:6-7).

E. He Permits

"And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them." (Acts 16:10).

F. He Speaks

"Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot." (Acts 8:29). Also read Acts 10:19; 13:2; Revelation 2:7; 3:6,13,22; 11:17,29.

G. He Loves

"Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me;" (Romans 15:30).

H. He Grieves

"And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." (Ephesians 4:30).

I. He Prays

"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." (Romans 8:26).

III. The Ministries Of The Holy Spirit

A. Concerning Creation

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.” (Genesis 1:1-2). See also Job 26:13; 33:4.

B. Concerning The Bible

“For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.” (2 Peter 1:21). See also 2 Samuel 23:2; Isaiah 59:21; John 14:26; 2 Timothy 3:15.

C. Concerning The Nation Of Israel

1. The Spirit Came upon Its Leaders

Notice what was said of Joseph: “And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?” (Genesis 41:38). Similar statements are made of Moses, Joshua, Othniel, Gideon, Jephthah, Samson, Saul, David, Elijah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Micah, Azariah, Zechariah, and more.

2. The Spirit Came upon Its Elders

“And the LORD came down in a cloud, and spake unto him, and took of the spirit that was upon him, and gave it unto the seventy elders: and it came to pass, that, when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, and did not cease.” (Numbers 11:25).

3. The Spirit Came upon Those Who Worked on the Tabernacle

“See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah: And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship,” (Exodus 31:2-3).

4. The Spirit Helped Israel Through the Desert

“Thou gavest also thy good spirit to instruct them, and withheldest not thy manna from their mouth, and gavest them water for their thirst.” (Nehemiah 9:20).

5. The Spirit Will Come upon Israel During the Tribulation

“And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:” (Joel 2:28).

6. The Spirit Will Come upon Israel During the Millennium

“And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.” (Zechariah 12:10).

D. Concerning The Devil

“So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood,

the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.” (Isaiah 59:19).

The Holy Spirit is currently acting as a Divine Dam, holding back and limiting the full power of Satan and of sin. 2 Thessalonians 2:7-14 describes what will happen when the Spirit is taken away and the devil is given free reign.

E. Concerning The Saviour

1. The Saviour was Begotten of the Holy Spirit

“Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.” (Matthew 1:18-20). See also Luke 1:35.

2. The Saviour was Anointed by the Holy Spirit

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,” (Luke 4:18). See also Matthew 3:16 and Acts 10:38.

3. The Saviour was Led by the Holy Spirit

“Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.” (Matthew 4:1).

4. The Saviour was Empowered by the Holy Spirit

“But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.” (Matthew 12:28).

5. The Saviour was Filled by the Holy Spirit

“And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,” (Luke 4:1). See also John 3:34.

6. The Saviour Offered Himself at Calvary Through the Holy Spirit

“How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?” (Hebrews 9:14).

7. The Saviour was Raised from the Dead by the Holy Spirit

“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.” (Romans 8:11). Read also Romans 1:4 and 1 Peter 3:18.

8. The Saviour Gave Commandments by the Holy Spirit

“Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:” (Acts 1:2).

F. Concerning Sinners

1. He Convicts the World of Sin and Unbelief

“And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me;” (John 16:8-9).

2. He Convinces Those Who are Ignorant of God’s Righteousness

“And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: ...Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;” (John 16:8, 10). See also Romans 10:3.

3. He Convicts the Unsaved of Judgment and Eternal Punishment

“And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:... Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.” (John 16: 8,11). See also Revelation 20:10.

4. He Regenerates the Believing Sinner

“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;” (Titus 3:5).

Also read John 3:1-8 and 1 Peter 1:23.

G. Concerning The Church

1. He Helped Form It

“Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.” (Ephesians 2:19-22).

2. He Directs Its Missionary Work

“Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.” (Acts 8:29). See also Acts 13:2,4; 16:6-10

3. He Inspires Its Singing Service

“And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;” (Ephesians 5:18-19). See Hebrews 2:12.

4. He Anoints Its Preachers

“And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man’s wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:” (1 Corinthians 2:4).

5. He Chooses Its Preachers

“Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.” (Acts 20:28).

6. He Warns Its Members

“Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;” (1 Timothy 4:1).

7. He Desires to Make Decisions for It

“For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things;” (Acts 15:28).

8. He Speaks to It

“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.” (Revelation 2:7). See also Revelation 2:11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22.

9. He Desires to Head Its Visitation and Evangelistic Program

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” (Acts 1:8). Also read Revelation 22:17.

H. Concerning The Individual Believer

1. He Regenerates the Believing Sinner

“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;” (Titus 3:5).

See also John 3:3-7; James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:23.

2. He Baptizes the Believing Sinner into the Body of Christ

“For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.” (1 Corinthians 12:13). See also Galatians 3:27.

It is a spiritual baptism into the body of Christ that saves us, *not water baptism*.

3. He Indwells the Believing Sinner

“But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.” (Romans 8:9).

See also John 7:37-39; 1 Corinthians 2:12 : 1 Corinthians 3:16; 1 Corinthians 6:19; Ephesians 3:16; and 1 John 3:24.

4. He Seals the Believing Sinner

“Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.” (2 Corinthians 1:22). Also Ephesians 1:13; 4:30.

The word “seal” means “to stamp with a signet or private mark for security and preservation.” Compare Ezekiel 9:4 and Revelation 7:3; 9:5; 14:1; and 22:4.

5. He is the Earnest of the Believing Sinner

“Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.” (2 Corinthians 1:22). See also Ephesians 1:14 and 2 Corinthians 5:5). An “earnest” is a “pledge.” It is part of the purchase money or property given in advance as security for the rest.

Note: These first five points are a “done deal” that cannot be undone! They assure us of having peace *with* God.

6. He Desires to Continually Fill the Believer

“If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?” (Luke 11:13). See also Ephesians 5:18. New Testament Christians were filled often. There is one indwelling, but many fillings. Read Acts 2:4; 4:8; 4:31; 6:3; 7:55; 9:17; 11:24; 13:9; and 13:52.

This sixth ministry of the Holy Spirit assures us we will have the peace of God. The filling of the Holy Spirit assures the believer of the following blessings:

a. He will pray for the believer

“Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.” (Romans 8:26). Read also Ephesians 6:18; Jude 1:20.

b. He will guide the believer

“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.” (John 16:13). See also Romans 8:14.

c. He will teach the believer

“But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things... But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.” (1 John 2:20,27).

d. He will empower the believer for witnessing

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” (Acts 1:8). See 1 Thessalonians 1:5.

e. He will impart the love of Christ to, and through, the believer

“And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.” (Romans 5:5).

f. He will change the believer into the image of Jesus Christ

“But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.” (2 Corinthians 3:18). See also Galatians 5:22-23.

g. He will strengthen the believer's inner man

“That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;” (Ephesians 3:16). See also 2 Corinthians 4:16.

h. He will reveal Biblical truth to the believer

“But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.” (1 Corinthians 2:10).

i. He will assure the believer of his or her salvation

“The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:” (Romans 8:16). See also 1 John 3:24.

j. He will give the believer liberty from sin

“For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.” (Romans 8:2). See also 2 Corinthians 3:17.

k. He will give the believer words to say

“But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost.” (Mark 13:11).

IV. The Names, Titles And Symbols Of The Holy Spirit

A. Names And Titles

1. The Spirit of God

“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that **the Spirit of God** dwelleth in you?” (1 Corinthians 3:16).

2. The Spirit of Christ

“But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not **the Spirit of Christ**, he is none of his.” (Romans 8:9).

3. The Eternal Spirit

“How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through **the eternal Spirit** offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?” (Hebrews 9:14).

4. The Spirit of Truth

“Howbeit when he, **the Spirit of truth**, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.” (John 16:13).

5. The Spirit of Grace

“Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto **the Spirit of grace?**” (Hebrews 10:29).

6. The Spirit of Life

“For the law of **the Spirit of life** in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.” (Romans 8:2).

7. The Promise of the Father

“And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that

they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for **the promise of the Father**, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.” (Acts 1:4,5).

8. The Spirit of Adoption

“For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received **the Spirit of adoption**, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.” (Romans 8:15).

9. The Comforter

“But **the Comforter**, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.” (John 14:26).

B. Symbols of the Holy Spirit

1. A Dove

“And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him.” (John 1:32). Also see Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:10; and Luke 3:22.

Representing:

- Purity (Song of Solomon 5:2 and 6:9)
- Peace (Genesis 8:11 and Psalms 55:6)
- Love (Song of Solomon 5:2)
- Modesty (Song of Solomon 2:14)

2. Water

“For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring.” (Isaiah 44:3).

Representing:

- Satisfaction (Isaiah 55:1 and John 7:37-39)

3. Oil

“Command the children of Israel, that they bring unto thee pure olive beaten for the light, to cause the lamps to burn continually.” (Leviticus 24:2). See also 1 John 2:27.

Representing:

- Anointing for service (Psalm 92:10 and Luke 4:18)
- Healing (Acts 10:38)
- Light (Matthew 25:1-13; Exodus 27:20; Luke 12:35)

4. A Seal

“And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.” (Ephesians 4:30).

Representing:

• Ownership, a finished transaction, identification, security, genuineness, value, authority (2 Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 1:13).

5. Wind

“And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.” (Acts

2:2).

Representing:

- An unseen Power (John 3:8)

6. An Earnest

“Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.” (2 Corinthians 1:22).

Representing

- A down-payment, a pledge, as assurance of eventual complete payment. (2 Corinthians 5:5 and Ephesians 1:14)

7. Fire

“And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.” (Acts 2:3).

Representing:

- purifying (Matthew 3:11,12 and 1 Peter 1:7)
- presence (Hebrews 12:29)
- judgment (2 Thessalonians 1:18)

V. The Gifts Of The Holy Spirit

A. Definition:

Gift - a supernatural ability given by Christ through the Holy Spirit to the believer at the moment of salvation.

A talent is a natural ability a person is born with (Genesis 4:20-22). It may be in the area of music, speech, organization, etc. But no natural talent, however great it might be, can be used to glorify God until sanctioned by the Holy Spirit (Exodus 31:2-5).

Some talents are rejected by God as useless to the Lord’s work and should be discarded by the Christian as dung (Philippians 3:4-9). [For example: A bartender gets saved. His “talent” is mixing drinks. God doesn’t want that talent. It should be crucified. God will give him another gift.]

B. Extent Of Spiritual Gifts

1. Each Believer Possesses at Least One Spiritual Gift.

“For I would that all men were even as I myself. But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that.” (1 Corinthians 7:7). See also 1 Corinthians 12:7,11 and 1 Peter 4:10.

But no believer possess all the gifts: “Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles? Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret?” (1 Corinthians 12:29,30).

2. Types of Gifts

a. Revelation gifts

Some gifts were given to the early church as a means of “reveling” truth. This was before the Bible was completed (they did not have the New Testament), so God confirmed the preaching with signs

(Mark 16:20).

These revelatory gifts are listed in 1 Corinthians 12:7-11:

1. Word of Wisdom
2. Word of Knowledge (Acts 11:28)
3. Faith
4. Healing
5. Miracle Working
6. Prophecy
7. Discerning of Spirits
8. Tongues
9. Interpretation of tongues

1 Corinthians 13:8-10 tells us that these revelatory gifts shall fail, cease, and vanish away when that which is perfect (the Bible) is come. "Fail" means "to be rendered entirely useless or idle, to abolish." Particularly mentioned are prophecy, word of knowledge, tongues and, obviously, interpretation of tongues.

b. Edification gifts

Edification gifts are used for "the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ" (Ephesians 4:12). See also Ephesians 4:8, 11. These gifts are used to form the positions in the church. Those positions are:

1. Apostles ("one sent" – missionaries)
See 1 Corinthians 12:28 and Ephesians 4:11.
2. Prophets/Preachers
See 1 Corinthians 12:28 and Ephesians 4:11
3. Teachers
See 1 Corinthians 12:28 and Ephesians 4:11.
4. Evangelists
See Ephesians 4:11.
5. Deacons
See 1 Timothy 3:10-13.
6. Elders (Bishops or Pastors)
See Acts 14:23, 15:22, 23; 16:4; 1 Timothy 5:17, Titus 1:5, and 1 Peter 5:1-5.

c. Ministerial gifts

Ministerial gifts should be used to build up others and improve the church. These gifts are:

1. Faith
See 1 Corinthians 12:9 and 13:2. Some have great mountain-moving faith.
2. Helps
See 1 Corinthians 12:28. This is probably the most prominent gift.
3. Governments
See Romans 12:8 and 1 Corinthians 12:28. The gift of ruling and

organizing.

4. Ministering

See Romans 12:7. Being a nurse to other's needs; a servant.

5. Exhortation

See Romans 12:8. Encouraging and warning others.

6. Giving

See Romans 12:8. "Over and above" givers.

7. Mercy

See Romans 12:8. The ability to show compassion and care.

8. Any talent that is sanctioned by the Holy Spirit to be used by the Lord to build His Church. As in the case of Bezaleel in Exodus 31:2-5.

3. The Abuse of Spiritual Gifts

a. Neglect

See 1 Timothy 4:14 and 2 Timothy 1:6.

b. Using the gift without love

See 1 Corinthians 13:1-3.

c. Using the gift to put self in front of others

See 1 Corinthians 14:4, 12, 16, 26.

VI. Sins Against The Holy Spirit

A. By Unbelievers

1. Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit

Read Matthew 12:22-37 and Mark 3:22-30. Note: A careful study of these 2 texts (the only passages that speak of this sin) clearly show that Jesus was addressing *unsaved* people.

2. Resisting the Holy Spirit

Read Acts 7:51-60. Resist means "to fight against."

B. By Believers

1. Quenching the Spirit

See 1 Thessalonians 5:19. This is caused by *not* doing what the Spirit *wants* us to do. A sin of omission.

2. Grieving the Spirit

See Ephesians 4:30. This is caused by *doing* what the Spirit *does not want* us to do. A sin of commission.

3. Vexing the Spirit

See Isaiah 63:10. "To vex" means "to wear down or to weary."

*4. Lying to the Spirit

See Acts 5:1-6. Keep your vows (Ecclesiastes 5:1-7)!

*5. Tempting the Spirit

See Acts 5:7-10. When two or more believers agree to do something together against the direction of the Holy Ghost.

*Note: Numbers 4 & 5 are examples of "the sin unto death." See 1 Corinthians 11:27-30 and 1 John 5:16.

6. Doing Despite unto the Spirit

See Hebrews 10:29. Despite means “to insult.” In this case (Hebrews 10:24-31) it refers to insulting the Holy Spirit by a light, indifferent attitude towards church attendance and love for God’s people.

VII. The Fruit Of The Spirit

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.” (Galatians 5:22-23).

Immediately following 18 manifestations of the flesh, the Apostle Paul – by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit – mentions that there are nine fruit of the Holy Ghost. The word “fruit” here refers to “maturity.” Fruit is actually singular. All nine of these begin to manifest themselves at once in a believer as they mature in the Holy Ghost.

When a person plants a seedling of an apple tree, he must wait approximately 8 years before he sees the first apple. The ninth year there will be a few more apples, the tenth year a few more, and so on. Fruit is the evidence that a tree has matured. As we mature in our walk with the Holy Ghost, the fruit of the Holy Spirit will begin to show as the evidence of our changed life.

Fruit is very visible. It is not hidden. When a person looks at a tree and sees pears hanging on it, he says, “That is a pear tree.” When a person sees peaches hanging on a tree, he says, “That is a peach tree.” When somebody sees the ornaments of love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance becoming obvious in the life and behavior of a person they say, “That is a Christian.” Are these graces appearing in your life as you grow older in the Lord?

The fruit of the Holy Spirit is more important than the gifts of the Holy Spirit. “Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not **charity**, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not **charity**, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not **charity**, it profiteth me nothing.” (1 Corinthians 13:1-3).

Notice in these verses that having charity is more important than having the gift of tongues, the gift of prophecy, the gift of knowledge, or the gift of helps. In fact, all of these gifts exercised are considered **nothing** in the eyes of God, unless they are done with charity. “...covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.” (1 Corinthians 12:31). It is more excellent for a believer to manifest the fruit of the Spirit than the gifts of the Spirit. The fruit of the Spirit qualifies us to use our gifts; otherwise, our gifts used are nothing.

It is paramount therefore, that we be filled with the Holy Spirit and that we be looking for the visible fruit of our maturing in the Holy Ghost. Let us

look at these nine fruit of the Spirit specifically and let us watch for these becoming more and more prevalent in our life, our heart, our mannerisms, our behavior, etc.

A. Love

There are two types of love the Scriptures tell us we should have. For the sake of simplicity we will call the one “inferior” love and the other a “superior” love.

1. Inferior Love

This word “love” usually refers to a great fondness or affection for somebody or something. For instance, when a wife is told to love her husband (Titus 2:4), she is supposed to have a fondness for him.

2 Superior Love

This “love” is the word used in our text to describe the fruit of the Holy Spirit. This love is a willingness to sacrifice yourself for somebody or something because of your relationship to that person or affection for that person.

The Bible says, “Hereby **perceive** we the love of God, because **he laid down his life** for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.” (1 John 3:16). This verse says our perception of God’s love is that of sacrifice. What a person sacrifices for is what they love. This is the fruit of the Spirit. When our love goes beyond a fondness for God into a willingness to sacrifice our all to Him, then we are maturing in the Holy Spirit.

B. Joy

Joy is much deeper than happiness. Happiness is usually produced by happenings. When the happening is over, the happiness subsides. For instance - riding a boat might make someone happy. It does not last long and certainly does not get someone through when troublesome times come. Joy abides deep within the Holy Spirit filled believer even on the worst day of their life. Joy is the ever present work of God as He cheers us no matter what we are going through.

The importance of joy is summarized in the statement, “... the joy of the Lord is your strength.” (Nehemiah 8:10b). Sounds important!

C. Peace

Peace is an inner calmness and quietness produced by the Holy Spirit. It means to be serene or at rest in soul, spirit, and heart. “For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. ¹⁸For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men. ¹⁹Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.” (Romans 14:17-19).

D. Longsuffering

Long suffering means to suffer for a long time! It refers to forbearance, fortitude, longanimity, endurance. This fruit of the Spirit will keep us from quitting and questioning.

E. Gentleness

Gentleness is to be “excellent in character and demeanor; to be useful in manners and morals by kindness, easiness, and graciousness.” “Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation: and thy right hand hath holden me up, and thy gentleness hath made me great.” (Psalms 18:35). “But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.” (James 3:17). “But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children:” (1 Thessalonians 2:7). “And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient,” (2 Timothy 2:24).

F. Goodness

Goodness is virtue or beneficence. When this fruit of the Holy Spirit is manifest in us, as we mature, our life becomes beneficial to God and others. “How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.” (Acts 10:38). Life is not about us, but life is about how many people benefit from our help.

G. Faith

Faith is confidence, dependence, trust, or reliance upon Christ, His abilities, and His Word. A person maturing in the Holy Ghost has more and more of this type of faith. Some do not have this. “And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.” (Matthew 13:58). They do not see mighty works in their lives, churches, or neighborhood.

As our faith grows, its potential is LIMITLESS. “Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done.” (Matthew 21:21).

H. Meekness

Meekness is the inner strength to trust in God to take care of your battles, circumstances, and needs. It is putting all in God’s hands, and leaving it there. (Not fighting your own battles OR DEFENDING YOURSELF.) “And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman. ²And they said, Hath the LORD indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us? And the LORD heard it. ³(Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.)” (Numbers 12:1-3). Meekness is humility.

I. Temperance

Temperance is self-control. Holy Spirit-given POWER to control your emotions, body, thought life, soul, etc.

“And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.” (1 Corinthians 9:25).

“Howbeit when **he**, the Spirit of truth,
is come, **he** will guide you into all truth:
for **he** shall not speak of **himself**;
but whatsoever **he** shall hear,
that shall **he** speak:
and **he** will shew you things to come.”

John 16:13