

The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

John 16: 7-15

I. Intro.

Too much to cover everything in one session or teaching.

II. The Personality of the Holy Spirit

He is NOT an "it"! He is a _____, the Third Person of the Trinity. (John 14:16-17, 26)

He does the work of a _____: he testifies, reproves, comforts, guides, strives, and helps. He reacts like a person: He may be resisted, grieved, insulted, blasphemed, and received. (Page 54 in Fundamentals of Our Faith.)

One of His primary roles is that of Comforter. We get this word from the Latin where it is "advocate". This is a very good description of what both Jesus and the Holy Spirit do. God the Father calls out to us through His Holy Spirit... almost as if He is walking beside us day by day calling out to us of God's great love for us and our need to accept His free gift of salvation... in this instance the Holy Spirit is God's Advocate to us... and when we accept that free gift of salvation, Jesus Christ standing at the right hand of God, turns to the Father and intercedes for us as our Advocate. (Fundamentals of Our Faith, page 61)

III. Holy Spirit's greatest work

Read: John 3:5-6

Regenerating "dead men" to "live believers"..... Example of the light switch shooting power to a bulb

A. If regeneration is the Holy Spirit's greatest work then these next two things are the chief supporting characters in that:

---- **v. 8** convicting work of the Holy Spirit prior to regeneration

example: the F. home missionary who found a tract (Nigeria)

----- **Ephesians 1:13** Sealing the new believer..... assurance of salvation.... Early believers and those today who face death need this assurance....no one can take them away from the Father. No one can "possess them"greater is he who is in you than He who is in the world.

C_____...r_____...s_____..... a great process!!!

IV. What else does the Holy Spirit do?

A. v7. He does provide Comfort in times of trouble and stress....He gives assurance to troubled and sometimes doubting minds. He never gives up on us, but keeps helping us that way.

B. v. 8 He convicts the world of the Truth of Christ. They don't want to hear it and many fight against it, but He continues doing it. Ever wonder about all the lost people who, in times of great danger or hurt will talk about prayer?? To me that is the evidence that God's Holy Spirit is working out there in the world and they are sensing it, but trying to ignore it until some great tragedy comes along and they then look for God's help. "God in a box" kind of thing.

C. v12-13 He helps us to understand _____ things.

Example: Maybe this is easier to see in the lay led church leaders in Africa and Asia. Most of them are uneducated and simply study God's Word using the limited resources they can find and then preach it under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Whenever they are able, many of them will go to a pastor training course, but until they can, they preach as God's Spirit helps them to understand.

D. v. 14 Glorifies Christ

Turns attention to/gives worth to the name of _____. How do we know if the thing we are thinking of doing/ feel led to do is of Christ? Who does it glorify? If we have to twist our logic this way and that to say it glorifies Christ, then it isn't of Him. If it clearly and directly glorifies Him, then we are probably safe.

E. Gives spiritual gifts **I Cor. 12:1-11** These are to build up the _____ and not our reputations.

F. Restrains Satan's full influence and final revealing in the world..... think it is bad now????? YOU DO NOT WANT TO BE HERE WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT IS WITHDRAWN AND SATAN IS ALLOWED FULL SWAY IN THE WORLD!!!!!!! **2 Thessalonians 2:6-7.**