Pneumatology

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Possibly the least understood Person of the Godhead, the study of the Spirit has led to strange ideas yet a clear understanding is essential
PERSONALITY OF THE SPIRIT: HIS IDENTITY

- Some call him an “it” or an influence (Unitarians and Jehovah Witnesses)
- Since man is made in the “image” of God, there is a similarity between man and God
  - When man dies physically, his spirit continues
  - The real man is independent of his body
- Angels are spirit beings, without bodies
- God is a spirit being and a person
Attributes Confirm His Personality

- **Intellect**: He “searches all things” (1 Co 2:10), then reveals them to man.
- **Knowledge**: Knows the “mind of God” (1 Co 2:11)
- **Mind**: Father knows the “mind of the Spirit” (Rom 8:17; Eph 1:17)
- **Emotions**: Sensibility to feelings and response (Eph 4:30)
- **Will**: Has power to make choices (bouletai, “decision of the will after deliberation”) (Jas 1:18; Acts 16:6)
His Works Confirm Personality

- The Spirit teaches or exhorts – Jn 14:16,26 “another” is allos (same kind) not heteros (different kind)
- The Spirit testifies – Jn 15:26 “he will testify of me.”
  Same word in Jn 15:27, disciples will testify.
- The Spirit guides – Jn 16:24
- The Spirit convicts – Jn 16:8, “convinced someone of something, point something out”
- The Spirit regenerates – Jn 5:21
- The Spirit intercedes – Rom 8:26
- The Spirit commands – Acts 13:2, 4; 16:6
HIS VULNERABILITY INDICATES PERSONALITY

- Can be **grieved** (Isa 63:10; Eph 4:30)
- Can be **blasphemed** (Mt 12:32)
- Can be **resisted** (Acts 7:51)
- Can be **lied to** (Acts 5:3)
- Can be **obeyed** (Acts 10)
There is no reason to change from the neuter to the personal pronoun unless the Spirit were a person.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neuter noun</th>
<th>Masculine Pronoun</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John 15:26: pneuma “Spirit”</td>
<td>ekeinos , “His”</td>
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DEITY OF THE SPIRIT

- “Spirit of God” and “Spirit of Christ” = Holy Spirit
- Rom 8:9-11 uses three terms:
  + “Spirit of God” (v. 9)
  + “Christ is in you” (v. 10, via the Holy Spirit)
  + “Spirit of Him” (Father, v. 11)
- Rom 8:13-14 Prove “Spirit” and “Spirit of God” is 3rd person of Trinity
- Acts 16:6-7, make synonyms of “Holy Spirit” and “Spirit of Christ” (v.7)
- Eph 4:4, ONLY ONE SPIRIT in God = 3 terms for One Spirit.
### Divine Attributes of Spirit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Father</th>
<th>Son</th>
<th>Spirit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Life</td>
<td>Josh 3:10</td>
<td>Jn 1:4</td>
<td>Rom 8:2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Omniscience</td>
<td>Psa 139:1-6</td>
<td>Jn 4:17-18</td>
<td>1 Cor 2:10-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omnipotence</td>
<td>Gen 1:1</td>
<td>Jn 1:3</td>
<td>Job 33:4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eternity</td>
<td>Psa 90:2</td>
<td>Jn 1:1</td>
<td>Heb 9:18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holiness</td>
<td>Lev 11:44</td>
<td>Acts 3:14</td>
<td>Mt 12:32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love</td>
<td>1 Jn 4:8</td>
<td>Rom 8:38-39</td>
<td>Gal 5:22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truth</td>
<td>Jn 3:33</td>
<td>Jn 14:6</td>
<td>Jn 14:17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DIVINE WORKS OF SPIRIT

- **Creator** (Gen 1:2; Psa 104:24-26; Job 26:13)
- **Generating Christ** (Mt 1:20)
- **Inspiration of Scripture** (2 Pet 1:21; 2 Tim 3:16)
- **Regeneration** (Tit 3:5; 1 Pet 1:23; Jn 3:6)
- **Intercession** (Rom 8:26)
- **Sanctification** (2 Thess 2:13; 1 Pet 1:2)
- **Helping Saints** (Jn 14:16)
ALLEGROY OR TYPE OF THE SPIRIT

- **Clothing:** Lu 24:49, “tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high” (Gk, *enduo*, “clothed with”)
- **Dove:** Mt 3:16, “like a dove” symbol of peace
- **Pledge:** 2 Co 1:22 Gk. *arrabon*, “deposit, down payment” Eph 1:4
- **Fire:** Acts 2:3, demonstrating the presence and approval of God (Ex 3:2)
- **Oil:** Zech 4:1-14, empowers, iluminates and cleanses
- **Seal:** 2 Cor 1:22; Eph 1:13; 4:30 denotes ownership-security
- **Water:** Jn 7:37-38, Overflowing presence
- **Wind:** Jn 3:8, Sovereign moving (1 Cor 12:11)
SPIRIT IN REVELATION AND INSPIRATION

Definitions

1. Revelation: Gk. *apokalupsis*, “disclosure or unveiling”. God reveals to man what he could not have known (Ezeq 2:2; 8:3). Pertains to specific MATERIALS.

2. Inspiration: “God superintending human authors while using their personalities, they wrote without error His revelations in words of the original autographs.” Pertains to the METHOD of the recording of revelation.
"GOD-BREATHED" CREATIONS


Products of the breath of God
1. Formed the heaven (Psa 33:6)
2. Assured the production of His written Word (2 Tim 3:16)
CHANNELS OF REVELATION

- OT prophets
  - Prophet’s message did not originate with them
  - He was the vehicle through whom God spoke
  - Guided by Spirit in delivering God’s message (Jer 1:2, 4, 9, 11, 17)

- Holy Spirit
  - Guided writers of Scriptures (1 Pet 1:21, “carried along”)
  - David (2 Sam 23:2; See also Acts 1:16; 4:25)
  - Ezekiel (2:2; 3:24; 8:3; 11:24) controlled by Spirit
METHODS OF REVELATION

- **Spoken Word**: (Gen 18:13,17; Ex 19:9; 20:1ff; Isa 6:8)
- **Dreams**: esp. used with unsaved, Abimelech (Gen 20:3); Nebuchadnezzar (Dan 2)—also Jacob (Gen 31:10-13) and Joseph (Gen 37:5-9)
- **Visions**: used with spiritually mature, esp. prophets, “seers”—Abraham (Gen 15:1); Ezekiel (1:1); Daniel (8:1)
- **Theophanies**: God manifested in human form, a special privilege for a special purpose: Abraham (Gen 18); Daniel 6:22
INSPIRATION OF THE OT

- OT writers were conscious the Spirit guided their writings (2 Sam 23:2-3)
- Christ taught OT writers were guided by Spirit (Mk 12:36, quoting Psa 110)
- Apostles taught OT writers were guided by Spirit (Acts 1:6; 4:24; 28:25). See also Acts 1:16
Christ affirmed inspiration of the NT
- Jn 14:26
- Jn 16:14

Spirit guided apostles by
- Helping them remember Christ’s teachings
- Enabled them to understand theologically what they wrote
- Guaranteed the completion of NT—“all things” (Jn 14:26)

NT writers recognized they wrote Scriptures (1 Cor 14:37; Gal 1:12)
- Paul taught by Spirit (1 Cor 2:13)
- Paul’s writings recognized as Scripture (1 Thes 2:13)

NT writers recognized each other’s writings as inspired
- Peter equated Paul’s writings with “rest of Scriptures” (2 P 3:16; 3:2)
DUAL SECTIONS OF BIBLICAL AUTHORITY
(2 PET 3:2)

Authority
“You should remember”...

Sections
1. ...“words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets”=OT
2. ...“commandments of our Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles”=NT
SPIRIT MINISTRY IN THE OT


- **Selective Indwelling**: Jn 14:16-17 Promised a new ministry of Spirit.
  - Indwelt some individuals (Num 27:18) & David (1 Sam 16:12-13)
  - Purpose was for specific tasks (warfare & construction)
  - Appears to be temporary: Saul (1 Sam 10:10; 16:14)

- **Restraining Sin** (Gen 6:3; 2 Thess 2:7-8)

- **Ability for service**
  - Artistic work in Tabernacle and Temple (Ex 31; 1Ki 7:14)
  - Ability in warfare (Joshua, David, Otoniel, Gideon)
SPIRIT IN RELATION TO CHRIST

- Messianic prophecy
  - Spirit would rest upon Him (Isa 42:1)
  - Would give wisdom, strength and knowledge (Isa 11:2-3)

- Virgin Birth
  - Mathew 1:20 and Luke 1:35 state Spirit is the agent of conception
  - Nature, not the Person, of Christ came into existed
  - Nature of Christ was sinless, through fully human (Jn 7:18; 2 Cor 5:21; 1 Jn 3:5)
  - Nature of Christ had human limitations: tired (Jn 4:6); thirst (4:7); wept (11:35)
  - Anointing empowered Jesus for public ministry (Lu 4:18)
## JESUS WAS ANOINTED BY SPIRIT

As kings (2 Sam 2:4) and priests (Ex 28:4) were anointed

1. Anointing designated Jesus as Messiah and King. Introduced by John (Jn 1:31)
2. Anointing introduced Jesus’ public ministry (Acts 10:38)
3. Anointing empowered Jesus for ministry (Lu 4:18). Though He had power in Himself, He choose to depend on Spirit
4. Anointing was divine authentication of Jesus. Audible statement from Father at baptism (Mt 3:17)
Jesus Filled by the Spirit

- John the Baptist filled in mother’s womb (Lu 1:15)
- Jesus was filled and led about by the Spirit (Lu 4:1)
  - Imperfect tense indicates continuous action
  - The Spirit *impelled* Jesus into wilderness, typical of His life.
THE DEATH OF CHRIST AND SPIRIT

- “Who through the eternal Spirit, offered Himself unblemished to God” (Heb 9:14)
- The Spirit leads the Servant (Isa 42:1) to bear the sins of the world (Isa 52:13- 53:12)
THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST AND THE SPIRIT

- Raised by the power of God the Father (Eph 1:19-20)
- Christ had the power to raise Himself (Jn 10:18)
- Description of the power of the Spirit is given as the power to resurrect Christ (Rom 1:4)
  - Rom 8:11 The Spirit raise Jesus
  - 1 Pet 3:8 Jesus “made alive in the Spirit”
BELIEVER AND SIN AGAINST THE SPIRIT

- Quench the Spirit (1 Thes 5:19)
- Grieve the Spirit (Eph 4:30)
- Refusal to walk in harmony with Spirit (Eph 5:1)
- Blaspheme the Spirit
  - In the historical context of miraculous signs of Messiah, the Pharisees attributed His signs to Satanic power (Mt 12:31-32)
  - There is no more evidence to motivate a turn to God, thus there is no further proof or evidence to offer – Rejection here leaves the sinner without hope of pardon
Three views:

1. Identified with water baptism (Rom 6:4; Gal 3:27)
2. “Second Blessing” as necessary to reach sanctification or effective service, evidenced by speaking in tongues
3. The immersing or “putting into” a vital union with Christ and the Body of Christ
HISTORY OF BAPTISM OF SPIRIT

- Spirit provoked little attention throughout Church history
- 1790 John Wesley taught “Second Blessing” idea for sanctification
- 1830 Charles Finney labeled Second Blessing the “Baptism of the Spirit”
- 1900 at a BI in Kansas while fasting and seeking the baptism some spoke in “tongues”
- 1956 an Anglican priest spoke in tongues while seeking the baptism of the Spirit
- 1972 Healing is sought as evidence of God’s “power-manifestation”
EXPLANATION OF THE SPIRIT BAPTISM

- Is unique to the Church Age (Acts 1:5; 11:15)
- Includes all believers in this age (1 Cor 12:13; Rom 6:3,5)
- Brings all believers into union with other believers in the Body of Christ (1 Cor 12:13)
- Brings all believers into union with Christ (Ro 6:3), without which there is no salvation!
- Is not experienced: it is an immediate work done to the believer and is simultaneous with salvation
- Is performed by the Spirit – There are not two baptism
- Distinction between “by” the Spirit (1 Cor 12) and “with” the Spirit (Acts 1:5) are identical in Gk (ἐν)
INDWELLING OF THE SPIRIT

- Jn 14:16-17 promised new ministry of Spirit (diff. from OT): “in” versus “with”
- Promised as a gift (Jn 7:37-39)
- Given at Salvation (Eph 1:13, “having also believed” – coincident aorist Ga 3:2)
- Without indwelling, person is unsaved (Ro 8:9; Jud 19)
- Indwells even carnal believers (1 Cor 6:19)
- Indwells believers permanently (2 Cor 1:22; Eph 4:30; Jn 14:16)
PROBLEMS RELATED TO INDWELLING

- OT Indwelling appears to be temporary
  - Psalm 51:11, “Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.”

- Not a conditional Indwelling. “Obey” is a synonym for “believe”.
  - Acts 5:32, “We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”
  - Acts 6:7, “So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.”

- On two occasions in the Transition Period definite apostolic confirmation was necessary for the unity of the church
  - Acts 8:14-17, “When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. 15 ..., they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, 16 because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; ... 17 Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.”
SEALING OF THE SPIRIT

Definition: the **Guarantee** that our salvation will be completed
- 2 Cor 1:22, Who hath also sealed us, and given the **earnest** (“arrhabon”, “downpayment”) of the Spirit in our hearts
- A “seal” authenticated a document, served to secured something for the owner

Explanation: Principle idea shows OWNERSHIP, as a brand on a steer
- Is Permanent Eph 4:30, ...you were sealed for the day of redemption.
- Is Universal Eph 1:13, Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,

Since there is no command to be sealed, it is evident that God does it at conversion
GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT: DEFINITION

- **pneumatikos**, “spiritual things”, emphasize origin, supernatural basis, given by the Spirit.
  - 1 Cor 12:11, “...Holy Spirit who distributes these **gifts**. He **alone decides** which gift each person should have.” NLT

- **charisma**, “grace gift”, not naturally developed ability
  - 1 Cor 12:4, There are different kinds of **gifts**, but the same Spirit.
  - Rom 12:3, 6, through the **grace** given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of **himself** more highly than he ought to think ... We have different **gifts**, according to the **grace** given us
EXPLANATIONS OF THE GIFTS

Two concepts:

1. An individual enablement for specially motivated service to others
   - 1 Cor 12:11 he gives them to each one, just as he determines.

2. A spiritual gift to the local church of a multi-gifted person
   - Eph 4:11-13 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12 to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ... and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Three notes:

1. Not a place of service
2. Not an age-group ministry
3. Not a natural talent
## COMPARISON OF TALENTS AND GIFTS

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<th>Comparison</th>
<th>Natural Talents</th>
<th>Spiritual Gifts</th>
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<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td>From God, through parents</td>
<td>From God, independent of parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Possessed</td>
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