

# The Holy Spirit of God

Note: The nature of the Holy Spirit is a mystery; it is not clearly revealed, and we cannot and should not attempt to define just what it is. However, the revelation of Himself that God has given in His word is for our study, and this we may seek to understand, as long as we do not indulge in speculation (see *The Ministry of Healing*, p. 429). The Bible does clearly reveal the *identity* of the Holy Spirit.

1. What two components make up a living being or soul? **Gen. 2:7**
2. What is another word for breath? **Job 33:4**
  - (a) Note: the Hebrew word for breath here is *neshamah*, and the word for Spirit is *ruach*. Ruach is translated as both *spirit* and *breath* (e.g. see **Job 27:3; Psalm 33:6, 146:4**).
3. What did Jesus say when He breathed on His disciples? **John 20:22**
4. Where is the spirit of man? **Job 32:8**

In contrast, where is God's Spirit? **Psalm 139:7-10**
5. Is the relation between ourselves and our human spirit comparable to the relation between God and His Spirit? **1 Cor. 2:10-11**
6. What are three other words the Bible uses for both the spirit of man and the Spirit of God?
  - (a) **Psalm 51:10, 17**; compare **Eph. 4:30** with **Gen. 6:3, 6**
  - (b) **Eph. 4:23**; compare **Isa. 40:13** with **Rom. 11:34**
    - i. Note: in **Ezek. 11:5** "the Spirit" and "your mind" (or "your thoughts") are translated from the same Hebrew word, *ruach*.
  - (c) **Isa. 38:16, John 6:63**
7. What two additional terms describe the Spirit of God? **Luke 1:35; 1 Peter 4:14**
8. What was seen descending from heaven and alighting upon Jesus after His baptism? **Matt. 3:16** (compare **2 Peter 1:17**)

"Never before had angels listened to such a prayer as Christ offered at his baptism, and they were solicitous to be the bearers of the message from the Father to his Son. But, no; direct from the Father issues the light of his glory. The heavens were opened, and **beams of glory rested upon the Son of God, and assumed the form of a dove**, in appearance like burnished gold. The dove-like form was emblematical of the meekness and gentleness of Christ." *The Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 2, p. 60.2
9. Is a person's spirit a different being or individual from themselves? **Dan. 7:15; Mark 2:8; Luke 1:46-47, 8:55, 10:21; Rom. 1:9**

10. Do the body and spirit have a separate consciousness? **James 2:26, Eccl. 9:5**
11. Does God have a form? **John 5:37, Rev. 22:3-4** (compare Rev. 14:1)
12. Does God have a Spirit? **1 Thess. 4:8**
13. Did Christ have a form even prior to being born as a human? **Phil. 2:6**
14. Does Christ have a Spirit? **1 Peter 1:11**
15. Whose spirit is the Holy Spirit? **Rom. 8:9-10**
16. Is the Spirit of Christ different from the Spirit of God? **Eph. 2:18, 4:4; John 14:10-11**
17. Who is the only one who knows the Son? **Matt. 11:27**
18. Who participated in the counsel of peace? **Zech. 6:12-13**
19. Who did Ananias and Sapphira lie to? **Acts 5:3-4, 9**
20. According to whose will are the gifts of the Spirit distributed? Compare **1 Cor. 12:11, Heb. 2:4**
21. Who will teach us what to say when we are brought before synagogues, magistrates, and powers? Compare **Luke 12:11-12, 21:12-15; Matt. 10:19-20**
22. Who did Jesus identify the Spirit as? **John 14:16-18** (comp. **Gal. 2:20, 4:6; Eph. 3:16-17**)
23. **John 16:7** – Why wouldn't the Comforter or Helper come unless Jesus went away?  
**John 7:38-39**
24. What happened on the day of Pentecost? **Acts 2:33, 3:13; 1 Cor. 15:45**
25. Who comforts our hearts Himself? **2 Thess. 2:16-17**
26. Who did Jesus say is in the midst of two or three gathered in His name? **Matt. 18:20**
27. Who did Christ promise would be with us until the end of the world? **Matt. 28:20**
28. After Christ's ascension, who worked with the disciples and confirmed the word with signs? **Mark 16:19-20**
29. Who is speaking to the seven churches in Revelation? **Rev. 2:7-8, 18, 29; 3:20-22**
30. Who makes intercession for us? **Rom. 8:26-27, 34; Heb. 7:25**
31. Who is the only mediator between God and men? **1 Tim. 2:5**
32. Who did Paul identify the Spirit as? **2 Cor. 3:17**
33. Who did John identify as our Advocate? **1 John 2:1**

(a) Note: the word *Advocate* is translated from the same Greek word as *Comforter* or *Helper* in John 14-16.

What has the enemy sought to shut from our view, that has caused the churches to weaken?

The reason why the churches are weak and sickly and ready to die, is that the enemy has brought influences of a discouraging nature to bear upon trembling souls. **He has sought to shut Jesus from their view as the Comforter**, as one who reproves, who warns, who admonishes them, saying, “This is the way, walk ye in it.” E. G. White, RH August 26, 1890, par. 10

How did Sister White describe the Holy Spirit?

Christ tells us that the Holy Spirit is the Comforter, and the Comforter is the Holy Ghost, “the **Spirit of truth**, which the Father shall send in my name.” John 14:26. “I will pray the Father, and he shall send you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him; but ye know him, for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.” Verses 16, 17. This refers to the **omnipresence of the Spirit of Christ**, called the Comforter. 7LtMs, Lt 7, 1891, par. 14

The **divine Spirit** that the world’s Redeemer promised to send, is the **presence and power** of God. ST November 23, 1891, par. 1

All who consecrate soul, body, and spirit to God will be constantly receiving a new endowment of physical and mental power. The inexhaustible supplies of heaven are at their command. Christ gives them **the breath of His own spirit, the life of His own life**. The Holy Spirit puts forth its highest energies to work in heart and mind. The grace of God enlarges and multiplies their faculties, and every perfection of the divine nature comes to their assistance in the work of saving souls. Through co-operation with Christ they are complete in Him, and in their human weakness they are enabled to do the deeds of Omnipotence. *The Desire of Ages*, p. 827.3

Who abides continually in our hearts?

Pentecost brought them the presence of the Comforter, of whom Christ had said, He “shall be in you.” And He had further said, “It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you.” John 14:17; 16:7. Henceforth through the Spirit, **Christ was to abide continually in the hearts of His children**. Their union with Him was closer than when He was personally with them. The light, and love, and power of **the indwelling Christ** shone out through them, so that men, beholding, “marveled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.” *Steps to Christ* p. 74

Who did Sister White identify the Holy Spirit as?

We want that complete and perfect understanding which the Lord alone can give. It is not safe to catch the spirit from another. **We want the Holy Spirit, which is Jesus Christ.** If we commune with God, we shall have strength and grace and efficiency. 9LtMs, Lt 66, 1894, par. 18

While Jesus ministers in the sanctuary above, He is still by **His Spirit** the minister of the church on earth. He is withdrawn from the eye of sense, but His parting promise is fulfilled, “Lo, **I am with you alway**, even unto the end of the world.” Matthew 28:20. While He delegates His power to inferior ministers, **His energizing presence** is still with His church. *The Desire of Ages*, p. 166.2

The Holy Spirit is **the Spirit of Christ**, which is sent to all men to give them sufficiency, 14 MR 84.3

Why does the Spirit of Prophecy refer to the Holy Spirit as a third person or personality?

**Cumbered with humanity, Christ could not be in every place personally**; therefore it was altogether for their advantage that He should leave them, go to His Father, and send the Holy Spirit to be His successor on earth. **The Holy Spirit is Himself, divested of the personality of humanity**, and independent thereof. **Christ would represent Himself** as present in all places by **His Holy Spirit**,—as the Omnipresent. PrT May 30, 1895, par. 7

When trials overshadow the soul, remember the words of **Christ**, remember that **He** is an **unseen presence** in the **person** of the Holy Spirit, *Daughters of God*, p. 185.2

In what way are God and Christ one?

From eternity there was a complete unity between the Father and the Son. They were two, yet little short of being identical; **two in individuality, yet one in spirit**, and heart, and character. *The Youth's Instructor*, December 16, 1897, par. 5

When God gives us His Spirit, who is He giving us?

In giving us His Spirit, **God gives us Himself**, making Himself a fountain of divine influences, to give health and life to the world. *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 7, p. 273.1