

Date: May 31, 2026

Title: The Holy Spirit and His Role in Our Salvation (Part 2)

Passage: Ephesians 2:1-10

Summary:

Role of the Holy Spirit in the Christian's Life

1. The Holy Spirit convicts dead sinners (v. 1-3)
2. The Holy Spirit gives new life (v. 1-3)
3. The Holy Spirit gives us faith. (v. 8-9)
4. The Holy Spirit unites us to Christ. (v. 5-6)
5. The Holy Spirit produces new life in us (sanctifies us) (v.20)

Key Truths:

- The Holy Spirit's primary roles are: deflective, reflective, and connective.
- Why do we need a new life? Because:
 - We are spiritually dead. (Eph. 2:1)
 - We are enslaved to sinful influences. (Eph. 2:2)
 - Our hearts are naturally sinful. (Eph. 2:3)
 - We are under God's wrath. (Eph. 2:3)
- The Holy Spirit gives us faith. This destroys pride and produces humility. Transforms the way we think about evangelism and prayer Brings assurance.
- The Spirit's work is to bring us into Christ, and once we are in Him, everything we need for salvation is found in Him. So the Spirit does not simply improve us or assist us from a distance. He brings us into living union with Christ-so that we share in His life, His death, His resurrection, and ultimately His glory.

Possible Discussion Questions:

- What point(s) in the sermon did the Lord most impress upon you?
- Do you recall the moment when you were convicted of the weight of your own sin? Please share.
- What's a takeaway from the sermon you can apply to your life?
- What next steps will you take in response to the truths you have heard or seen?

Introduction

Pentecost

- commemorates the coming of the Holy Spirit
 - 50 days after Easter

Acts 2:1-4

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Today: the Holy Spirit has often been misconstrued:

- spectrum:
 - Over-emphasize the Spirit such that those who don't have it are second-class citizens.
 - ignore and not dependent upon the Spirit at all in ministry but focus on nice buildings and programming.

Passage:

Ephesians 2:1-10

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

EXPOSITION

Introduction

The Holy Spirit

- A person of the Holy Trinity

Matthew 28:19

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

- We are to pray to the Father through the Spirit in the name of Jesus.

The 3 roles of the Spirit in the Trinity:

- Deflective role (John 14-17):

- Always showcases Christ.
- The Son points to the Father. The Spirit comes to reveal more of the Son.
- Reflective role
 - Helps us to reflect who God is and reflect who we are based upon who God is.
- Connective role
 - Connects us to God and with one another.

Overview

Role of the Holy Spirit in the Christian's Life

1. The Holy Spirit convicts dead sinners (v. 1-3)
2. The Holy Spirit gives new life (v. 1-3)
3. The Holy Spirit gives us faith. (v. 8-9)
4. The Holy Spirit unites us to Christ. (v. 5-6)
5. The Holy Spirit produces new life in us (sanctifies us) (v.20)

I. THE HOLY SPIRIT CONVICTS DEAD SINNERS.

Why is conviction necessary?

- The Holy Spirit opens our eyes to see sins as God sees it.
- The only way there is conviction of the weight of our sin is through the Holy Spirit.

II. THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES NEW LIFE.

- Dead people don't need improvement. They need resurrection!

Why do we need a new life?

Because:

- We are spiritually dead. (Eph. 2:1)
- We are enslaved to sinful influences. (Eph. 2:2)
- Our hearts are naturally sinful. (Eph. 2:3)
- We are under God's wrath. (Eph. 2:3)

What does it mean to be spiritually dead?

- The separation between our spirit and God's Spirit.
 - There is a chasm between us and God.
 - There is nothing about us that would attract God to us. We are infected and enslaved to sin.

John 8:34

Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin.

- No one is morally neutral. Either you are a slave to sin or slave to God.
- We don't need a spiritual tune-up or remodeling, we need spiritual resurrection from the dead.

III. The HOLY SPIRIT GIVES US FAITH. (v. 8-9)

Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Faith comes out of us as a sign that God is working in us.

- Shows we have a change of heart and a change of mind.

This destroys pride and produces humility.

- Our faith completely comes from God.

James 1:17

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

1 Corinthians 4:7

For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?

- Faith is good. Only good things come from God. Everything we have is received from God.
- The only thing you contributed to your salvation are your sins.

Transforms the way we think about evangelism and prayer

- We look at others with compassion.
 - Apart from God's grace, we would be in the same place.
- Ultimately it is God's mercy and grace that needs to be at work in someone's life.
 - There is nothing you can do to get yourself (or someone else) into heaven.
- God can do all kinds of things with all kinds of people. He can change any heart.
 - Therefore, don't stop praying!

- Keep praying and never give up!
 - God may answer your prayers even after you have passed.

Brings assurance.

- Our salvation does not rest on our grip on Him but rests on God's grip on us.
- You are not saved based on the quality of your faith but on the quality of the One you place your faith in.
 - That faith is a gift if he gives you.

IV. THE HOLY SPIRIT UNITES US TO CHRIST (v.5-6)

Ephesians 2:5-6

even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

- The Spirit's work is to bring us into Christ, and once we are in Him, everything we need for salvation is found in Him.
 - So the Spirit does not simply improve us or assist us from a distance.
 - He brings us into living union with Christ—so that we share in His life, His death, His resurrection, and ultimately His glory.

1 Corinthians 1:30

And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption,

- The Spirit's work is to unite us to Christ.

V. THE HOLY SPIRIT PRODUCES NEW LIFE IN US (SANCTIFIES US) (v.20)

Ephesians 2:10

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

- The Holy Spirit gives us the desire to do the right things.

Philippians 2:12-13

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

- Who does the work of sanctification? God.
- Analogy: Sailboat.
 - It has no energy or power of its own. The sailor needs to keep the sails up so can
 - We can not create spiritual power on our own. We cannot create holiness. But we are called to respond. As we respond, the Spirit supplies the power.
 - We work out as God works in.
 - You are saved by faith alone. But saving faith never comes alone.

How do I know that I am pursuing Christ?

Galatians 5:16-24

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

- The fact that you have a fight with your flesh shows there is something happening.
 - Otherwise if spiritually dead, there is no fight, no remorse, and no repentance. If dead, then always looking to the next pleasurable high in sins or stay in your sin (such as fits of anger, etc.)
- This passage doesn't say that all fruit is full-grown. You may not have all fruit in all maturity at all times of your life.
 - But if you have the desire to grow, then the Spirit is within you.

Question: Do you truly have the fruit of the Spirit?

- You cannot fake. You either have the Spirit of God or you do not.
- With some effort, you can imitate the work of the Spirit
 - but you cannot produce the fruit of the Spirit without the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 7:21-23

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many

mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

Question: Do you truly know Jesus?

- Do you truly experience the fruit of the Spirit
- Have you fought against your flesh?
- Is the direction of your life always towards Christ?
- Have you seen any growth in Christ?
- Do you have any desire to do the things of God?

If you do not know Jesus, what to do?

- Cry out to God for His mercy and for saving faith.
- It's not about changing your behavior or trying to clean yourself up. Get on your knees and cry out to God.

Ephesians 3:20-21

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.