

Deity of the Holy Spirit II

By Greg Rangel

In our last article we picked up the topic that not many people like to deal with. And that is the deity of the Holy Spirit.

According to Scripture, the Holy Spirit is the third person of the godhead. He is mentioned many different times in Old and New Testaments as possessing the attributes of God. Apart from that, the Holy Spirit is also referred as a person.

In our last article we dealt with the personal pronouns that are mentioned in regards to the Holy Spirit. He is referred to as a person time and time again (see John 14:16, 26, John 15:26, 16:13).

We also saw that since the Holy Spirit is a person, He also does personal acts. He teaches (John 14:26, 1 Corinthians 2:13, 1 John 2:27), He bears witness (John 15:26), He convicts (John 16:9-11), He guides into truth (John 16:13), He calls men into service (see Acts 13:1-4), and He intercedes (see Romans 8:26). Apart from that He also speaks (see Acts 21:11, Hebrews 3:7).

To further prove that the Holy Spirit is a person, He also has three essential elements of personality. He is intelligent (see 1 Corinthians 2:11, 13, John 16:9-11, 16:13). He also has sensibilities (see Romans 15:30). And He also has a will (see 1 Corinthians 12:11, Acts 15:28, Acts 13:1-4).

The Holy Spirit is a person. He is the third person of the godhead. That is why Scripture does not hesitate in pointing out all of the above.

A few other things that show us that the Holy Spirit is a person are acts that are done against a person. He can also be lied to; Acts 5:3 says “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?” The Holy Spirit can also be tempted; Acts 5:9 says “Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out.” As a person can be grieved, the Holy Spirit can also be grieved; Ephesians 4:30 says, “And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.” The Holy Spirit can also be resisted; Acts 7:51 says, “Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.” He can also be blasphemed; Matthew 12:31 says, “Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.” All of the above things prove that the Holy Spirit is a person indeed and not some impersonal spiritual force as cults would have you believe. The Bible uses these personal pronouns and refers to the Holy Spirit as a person because He is a person. This is the true Holy Spirit of Scripture. To believe otherwise is going against Scripture and against God Himself because one fails to believe “all” that God has revealed about Himself in Scripture.

Failing to believe in the true Holy Spirit of Scripture is failing to believe in the truth because Scripture has revealed the truth about God. One can choose to believe in this truth that is revealed in Scripture or disbelieve it. But regardless what choice is made, the truth about God does not change. Neither does His person. The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Godhead.

Something else that shows us that the Holy Spirit is deity is the fact that the eternal attributes of God are applied to Him. For example: like God is eternal, so is the Holy Spirit; Hebrews 9:14 says, “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?”

Scripture also teaches that God is Omniscient. This is also applied to the Holy Spirit. John 14:26 says, “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.” We will continue to see the eternal attributes of God in our next article.

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