

SPIRIT SEALED
PART 2
Ephesians 1:13-14

As you are opening to Eph. 1:13-14, let us point out to you that the subject of the Holy Spirit is a vast one that touches on the very heart of our ministry.

In fact, I've been collecting reports on various Christians of the Holy Spirit. The best one was this one who said:

“Startling things are happening among Christians today. Amazing claims abound that God is doing signs, wonders, and miracles. These claims are being broadcast by word of mouth, the printed page, television, and radio at a rate so prolific that they can hardly be catalogued, let alone verified.

“Fantastic encounters with Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are reported as commonplace. Healings of all kinds are reported. It is not unusual to hear of striking testimonies about how God has corrected spinal injuries, lengthened legs and removed cancerous tissue in response to faith. One seemingly omniscient Christian-TV-talk-show host discerns that miracles and healings of various types are happening during his broadcast. He urges viewers to call in and tell of ‘claiming’ certain healings that are available. Not surprisingly, many do so.

“Some of the miracles seem almost bizarre: puppies are raised from the dead; washing machines are ‘healed’; empty gas tanks are supernaturally filled; people are ‘slain’ (knocked flat) by the Holy Spirit. “One lady reports being given a new ‘belly button’. A man named Marvin Ford testifies that he has actually been to heaven and

back. “Amazing experiences like these seem to be the order of the day as God, in an apparent hyperkinetic outburst, puts on a supernatural performance rivaled only by the six days of Creation and the Egyptian plagues!”¹

Is that the biblical ministry of the Holy Spirit? Now before we get into a deep study of the charismatic issue, let's focus on our text as it reveals the Holy Spirit in God's master plan for the church.

Remember, four areas we see in this verse:

- I. First was the Plan of Salvation:
 - A. Described in the Old Testament
 - B. Detailed in the New Testament
 - C. Defined as:
 - hearing the gospel
 - responding in faith (agreeing to God's change - sinners)
 - transformed supernaturally as Holy Spirit enters

Eph. 2:8-9 for by grace...
Rom. 10:9-10 that if Thou shalt...
Acts 26:18 to open eyes...
Titus 3:5 not by works... By renewing Holy Spirit < its Holy Spirit comes at the moment of salvation

So, one sees God's plan of salvation and the Holy Spirit is vitally present from that moment!

- II. Secondly, the Portrait of the Spirit (or who is He?)
 - A. Holy Spirit is mentioned often in Bible
 - 50+ times in the O.T.
 - 80+ times in N.T.

¹ Mac, *Charismatics*, p.

B. Holy Spirit is described as a person as orthodox Christian doctrine states: “the Holy Spirit is a divine person, eternal, underived, possessing all the attributes of personality and deity including intellect (1 Cor. 2:10-13), emotions (Eph. 4:30), will (1 Cor. 12:11), eternality (Heb. 9:14), omnipresence (Rom. 15:13), and truthfulness (Jn. 16:13). In all the divine attributes He is coequal and consubstantial with the Father and the Son (Matt. 28:19; Acts 5:3-4; 28:25-26; 1 Cor. 12:4-6; 2 Cor. 13:14; and Jer. 31:31-34 with Heb. 10:15-17).”

C. The third feature of the biblical portrait of the Holy Spirit is seen.

Only as we fully comprehend:

- His relationship to the plan of salvation, and
- His biblical portrait. Can we understand His purpose and pledge of security.

What are the biblical designations of the Holy Spirit that portray Him:

NEW TESTAMENT DESIGNATIONS OF THE SPIRIT OR HOW HE REVEALS GOD TO US

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Holy Ghost | | Mt. 1:18-20 |
| Sspirit of God | | Mt. 3:16 |
| Spirit | | Mt. 4:1; Mk. 1:10 |
| Spirit of your Father | | Mt. 10:20 |
| Comforter | | Jn. 14:16 |
| Spirit of truth | affirms | Jn. 14:17 |
| Spirit of the Lord | | Acts 5:9 |
| Spirit of Jesus | reveals | Acts 16:7 (ASV) |
| Spirit of holiness | brings | Rom. 1:4 |
| Spirit of life | fills full | Rom. 8:2 |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Spirit of Christ | declares | Rom. 8:9 |
| Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus | | Rom. 8:11 |
| Spirit of adoption | invites | Rom. 8:15 |
| Spirit of our God | | 1 Cor. 6:11 |
| Spirit of the living God | | 2 Cor. 3:3 |
| Spirit of faith | energizes | 2 Ccor. 4:13 |
| Spirit of His Son | introduces | Gal. 4:6 |
| Holy Spirit of promise | opens | Eph. 1:13 |
| Spirit of wisdom | bestows | Eph. 1:17 |
| One Spirit | unites | Eph. 4:4 |
| Spirit of Jesus Christ | mediates | Phil. 1:19 |
| Eternal Spirit | exists as God | Heb. 9:14 |
| Spirit of grace | communicates | Heb. 10:29 |
| Father of spirits | subordinate | Heb. 12:9 |
| Spirit of glory | brings | 1 Pet. 4:14 |
| Holy One | | 1 Jn. 2:20 |
| Seven Spirits of God | knows | Rev. 3:1 |

What a portrait! What a rich revelation.

Now,

- I. Thirdly, we come to the Purpose of the Holy Spirit in relation to the church².
 - A. For the awakening of faith - *wooing unto salvation*, as the Spirit of truth (Jn. 15:26)
 - B. For effecting the new birth - *dispensing life*, as the Spirit of sonship (Rom. 8:15);
 - C. For leading in sanctification - *educating*, as the Spirit of holiness (I Cor. 6:19, 20; 1 Thess. 4:7, 8);
 - D. For stimulating service - *equipping*, as the Spirit of power (II Tim. 1:7);
 - E. For bringing about the glorifying - *transfiguring*, as the Spirit of glory (I Pet. 4:14).

² Sauer, p ?

