

From the May 4, 2009 Issue

## 10 Colossal Truths Regarding the Holy Spirit

Jesus was absolutely clear to His followers before His Ascension that *‘they were on no account to leave Jerusalem but “must wait for what the Father promised: the promise you heard from me. John baptized in water; you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit. And soon.”’* (Acts 1:4-5 The Message)

Whoa!!! Don’t leave Jerusalem? Just wait? For the Baptism of the Spirit? Coming soon to a theater near us?

Wow, this Holy Spirit Person must be IMPORTANT!! And He is! I offer up these Ten Colossal Truths about the Person of the Holy Spirit, and why I believe Jesus would make such a statement to his followers in the quote from Acts above. There are far more Colossal Truths than ten, of course (THE HOLY SPIRIT BEING GOD AND ALL!), but I wanted to give you a head start!

**1. The Holy Spirit is a Distinct Person and Member of the Trinity!** The Holy Spirit even speaks with His own distinct voice as God – Acts 13:2. In the Bible, the Holy Spirit has intellect, passions, and will, and can even be grieved. In short, the Spirit has a personality! Jesus commanded us to baptize others in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit - Matt 28:19-20! There is no Triune God apart from the Holy Spirit! Think of the significance of that!

**2. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Communion – 2 Cor 13:14!** Good gravy! No Holy Spirit, no communion, no relationship! Can you imagine two Persons with no Spirit, relationship, between them? Yikes! The church fathers have even noted that the Spirit is the One that helps the Father know the Son and the Son know the Father! Think of the weight of that!

**3. It is in the Spirit that God is Personally Present with Everyone and Everything Everywhere - Psalm 139:7!** It is in the distinction of the Holy Spirit that we can begin to speak about Humanity and Creation’s perpetual union and closeness with God!

**4. There was something not complete about humanity’s education of our union with God in Jesus without the Person of the Holy Spirit coming to educate us – John 16:7-15!** Jesus said he MUST go, or else the Friend, the Holy Spirit would not be sent! There is A LOT to chew on there! The early church fathers speak of the need for the Holy Spirit to be accustomed to human nature through Jesus Christ so that he could be with us as the Spirit of Christ! Great googly-moogly!

**5. THE Holy Spirit has been poured out on all flesh – Acts 2:17!** I can’t say it any simpler than that EVERYONE in the Cosmos has the Holy Spirit! He is IN them! Oooohhhh! We have much rethinking to do with that in mind! That speaks to nothing less than the dignity of everyone and everything, in some way, in the Holy Spirit! Holy Ghost Goodness!

**6. Things are accomplished not by might, or by power, but by God’s Holy Spirit – Zechariah 4:6!** If we let the Revelation of God in Jesus Christ speak to us, and remember the distinction of the Holy Spirit, we can see that the primary might and power God exercises is in, through, and for RELATIONSHIP! It’s taken me almost 42 years to begin to get a handle on that Trinitarian logic!

**7. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Adoption!** Read this thrilling news in The Message bible, *“You can tell for sure that you are now fully adopted as his own children because God sent the Spirit of his Son into our lives*

*crying out, "Papa! Father!"* - Good God Almighty! This heartfelt cry of Adoption isn't the product of any sinful man! This is the heartfelt cry of the Holy Spirit being shared with man, with you! Are you waking up and getting more of a sense of how included YOU are, in the Holy Spirit of God, and why your heart is crying???? It wouldn't have crossed your mind to think of anything this good all by yourself!

**8. Related to point 4 above, the Holy Spirit shared with us is Jesus' actual anointing in the Person of the Holy Spirit – Luke 4:1, John 16:7-15!** Say what?! Well, He is called the Spirit of Truth and Jesus is the Truth. He is also called the Spirit of Christ – Phil 1:19. That's plain! Dr. Baxter Kruger is great at helping us to see this point more clearly, so visit his site and blog sometime at [www.perichoresis.org](http://www.perichoresis.org) .

This point says that we will never have our own, personal anointing in the Holy Spirit. Instead we will always share in Jesus' PERFECT ANOINTING in the Spirit as a glorified humanity! I am in love with the Trinity again - \*sigh\*

**9. Related to points 3 and 5 above, the Holy Spirit MUST be personally present in a Person's life ALREADY in order for them to embrace Him!** How could your evangelism have a chance at all of being received if the Holy Spirit wasn't already present in a person to help them receive Him? The Gospel isn't about existentialism (the view that reality does not exist until I cause it to exist!) The Gospel is the Good News of God's Grace! Acts 20:24, 32! The Holy Spirit dwells in us because of His choosing!

Whew!! Thanks, Holy Spirit, for making things a lot easier than I thought they were!

**10. The Holy Spirit is the inspiration behind the Scriptures** – 2 Peter 1:19-21 , the Good News – 1 Peter 1:12, and the Education of the Human Race in Who Jesus is, Who the Trinity is, and who we are in the Trinity (See all the scriptures mentioned again! Ha-ha!)

In conclusion, think on this quote:

*"Spell this out in capital letters: THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A PERSON. He is not enthusiasm. He is not courage. He is not energy. He is not the personification of all good qualities, like Jack Frost is the personification of cold weather. Actually, the Holy Spirit is not the personification of anything..... He has individuality. He is one being and not another. He has will and intelligence. He has bearing. He has knowledge and sympathy and ability to love and see and think. He can hear, speak, desire, grieve and rejoice. He is a Person." ----- A. W. Tozer, The Counselor*

~ Tim Brassell