

# Welcome To

Malvern Bible Chapel



# How does the doctrine of God the Spirit relate to my life?

Part of the Doctrine Made Practical Series

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Robert L. Watt

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# How does the doctrine of God the Spirit relate to my life?

## Objective:

The big idea is to realize that God is with or in each believer all of the time by means of the Holy Spirit!

## Text: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NKJV)

<sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? <sup>20</sup> For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

# How does the doctrine of God the Spirit relate to my life?

## Introduction:

Each speaker of this series was given a template so that each message would follow the same general plan by answering a series of questions. For example:

### 1. Is the first mention applicable?

- Spirit of God active at creation ([Gen. 1:2,26-27](#)). We are spiritual.

### 2. OT references or use of the doctrine?

- Spirit coming for a specific work (temporary). The personality and Deity of the Holy Spirit appear from the attributes ascribed to Him and from His works and generally empowering the servants of God. He is called “Holy” ([Psa. 51:11](#)). Other attributes: wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge, fear of the Lord (conscience) are ascribed prophetically to Christ ([Isa. 11:2](#)).

# How does the doctrine of God the Spirit relate to my life?

## 3. NT references or use of the doctrine?

- Spirit dwelling in all believers and empowering them individually (from *dunamis*, “God’s enabling power”; dynamite).
  - The Spirit’s coming is the fulfillment of the promise Jesus made to his disciples, not to leave them orphans or fatherless but to send a Helper (*paraclete* or “One called alongside to help”), the Spirit of Truth, the Holy Spirit (**John 14:16-26**).
  - Each believer given gifts of the Spirit to continue work of Jesus Christ in His visible body today, the church (**Rom. 12:6-8**).
- Collectively, the NT church is composed of individual Spirit-enabled believers meeting together in a particular geographical area (**Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:7-16**).

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## 4. Historically have there been conflicts because of the doctrine of the Spirit?

- There have been many controversies (and/or church splits!) over the doctrine of the Spirit (Pentecostal churches) and spiritual gifts (root is "*charis*" → charismatic, etc.).
- Too often we have seen a reaction in our assemblies to go to the opposite extreme and hardly mention or teach on the subject of the Holy Spirit. We do so to our detriment!

# How does the doctrine of God the Spirit relate to my life?

## Body of Lesson:

### 1. Why is this doctrine important to study today?

- Last week we saw the birth of the NT church by the power of God (**Acts 2:1-4**).
- The first disciples were literally transformed from a collection of timid, afraid, seemingly powerless followers of Jesus into bold, fearless, witnesses and martyrs! The only explanation was they were now empowered by the Holy Spirit! We need to experience the same transformation in our lives today! (**Rom. 12:1-2**)
- We also saw the numerical growth of the NT church (12 → 120 → 3,000 → 5,000) by the powerful preaching of Peter, and the witness of the early disciples as that same power spread from Jerusalem (eventually → Judea → Samaria → end of the earth with Paul's missionary journeys just as Jesus said, **Acts 1:8**).

# How does the doctrine of God the Spirit relate to my life?

## 1. Why is this doctrine important to study today? (cont.)

- What happened in the 15 centuries to follow (2<sup>nd</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>)? The power of man increased and the power of the Spirit seemed to decrease. Why? Who changed? The church ceased being a living organism with a vision; instead it became a dead organization with no light or vision. (See *Who Killed My Church?* by R. James Shupp.)



# ***The Four Seasons in the Lifecycle of a Church***

<u><b>Movement</b></u>	<u><b>Monument</b></u>	<u><b>Museum</b></u>	<u><b>Morque</b></u>
Revolutionary	Evolutionary	Stationary	Reactionary
Passion	Profession	Paycheck	Poverty
Creativity	Mimicry	Hypersensitivity	Sterility
Spiritual Vitality	Spiritual Inertia	Spiritual Frustration	Spiritual Death
Imagination	Determination	Exasperation	Stagnation
Life Change	Life Support	Life Draining	Lifeless
Multiplication	Addition	Equilibrium	Division
Status Change	Status Symbol	Status-Quo	Status Offline
Flexible	Fatigued	Fragile	Frozen
Catalytic	Analytic	Paralytic	Apocalyptic
Vision	Strategy	Structure	Decay
Sacrifice	Commitment	Obligation	Contempt

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- What happened in the 15 centuries to follow (2<sup>nd</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>)? The power of man increased and the power of the Spirit seemed to decrease. Why? Who changed? The church ceased being a living organism with a vision; instead it became a dead organization with no light or vision. (See *Who Killed My Church?* by R. James Shupp.)
- Reformation 500 years ago; Scriptures in language of the people; church principles rediscovered that had been lost for centuries; Puritans and others seeking religious freedom came to America; set up government and laws according to Biblical principles; MBC church roots from the assembly movement started nearly 200 years ago in England; stressed freedom of the Spirit to work in all believers, not just a paid clergy, and to meet for worship patterned after the early NT church.

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## 2. What potential problems could be solved by a better understanding of this doctrine?

- **Personal purity and holiness** (see text)—this should be our goal but we have gotten away from it. This is not a popular subject, but “*What if Jesus meant what He said?*” about how we should live as His followers? (Subject of our Wed. night Bible studies.)

We all face uncontrolled desires of many kinds. Paul admonishes us to be filled with (controlled by) the Spirit (**Eph. 5:18**). This should control our walk as believers! Then our hearts will be characterized as teachable (v.19), melodious (v.19), grateful (v. 20), and humble (v.21). There is something winsome and infectious about a Spirit-filled follower of Jesus glorifying God as he/she was created to do!

- **Corporate unity**—the proper use of the individual Spiritual gifts (**Rom. 12:6-8**) when we come together as a NT church (**1 Cor. 12:12-27**). The purpose is that there should be no schism (v. 25). See also **Eph. 4:11-16**.

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## Ephesians 4:11-16 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; <sup>14</sup> that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, <sup>15</sup> but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

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## 3. Illustration of the doctrine of the Spirit in Scriptures?

- The bold witness of Peter and John and the other disciples (see [Acts 4:8, 13](#), etc.)
- There really aren't any good biblical how to examples of the Spirit working in the church meetings. That allows us much freedom in our local church, and those in other cultures around the world.

## 4. How do I make this doctrine practical in my life?

### What personal transformation should I desire to see?

- Since God continually lives in me by means of the Holy Spirit, does He control me? Have I really acknowledged that He is in charge of my life; that He is my Lord? Our text says that our body is the temple (the inner sanctuary, not the outer precincts) of the Holy Spirit. He redeemed us (paid the price for our salvation and deliverance from the bondage of sin); we don't have a right to run our lives, but should turn this over to Him.

# How does the doctrine of God the Spirit relate to my life?

## 4. How do I make this doctrine practical in my life? (cont.)

- How does the Spirit free me from sinning? (I must really desire this!)
  - Make a personal study of **Romans 6-8**.
- How do I cultivate a relationship with the Holy Spirit to avoid doing anything unholy? (This is not automatic, forced on us by the Spirit!)
  - Again, make a personal study of what it means to **quench the Spirit** (**1 Thes. 5:19**). We are commanded (not a suggestion) to not quench the Spirit by putting out the light or fire ignited by the Spirit's promptings (like our conscience).





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- How do I cultivate a relationship with the Holy Spirit to avoid doing anything unholy?
  - Again, make a personal study of what it means to **quench the Spirit** (**1 Thes. 5:19**). We are commanded (not a suggestion) to not quench the Spirit by putting out the light or fire ignited by the Spirit's promptings (like our conscience).
  - Also, make a personal study about what it means to **grieve the Spirit** (**Eph. 4:30-32**). We are commanded to not grieve the Spirit—to bring pain and grief to the One who loves us so much!



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## 4. How do I make this doctrine practical in my life? (cont.)

- Instead, as we saw we are commanded to be **filled with the Holy Spirit** (Eph. 5:18-21). When that happens, there will be a gradual change in our lives and the Christ-like character qualities will begin to be seen in us. Instead of demonstrating the walk of someone controlled by the flesh, our own natural desires, we will be recognized as those who are Spirit-controlled who produce the **fruit of the Spirit**: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control (Gal. 4:16-26)

# The Fruit of the Spirit

## LOVE

Seeks the highest good of others.

## JOY

Gladness that is not based on circumstances.

## PEACE

Contentment, unity between people.

## PATIENCE

Slow to speak and slow to anger.

## KINDNESS

Merciful, sweet, and tender.

## GOODNESS

Generous and open hearted.

## FAITHFULNESS

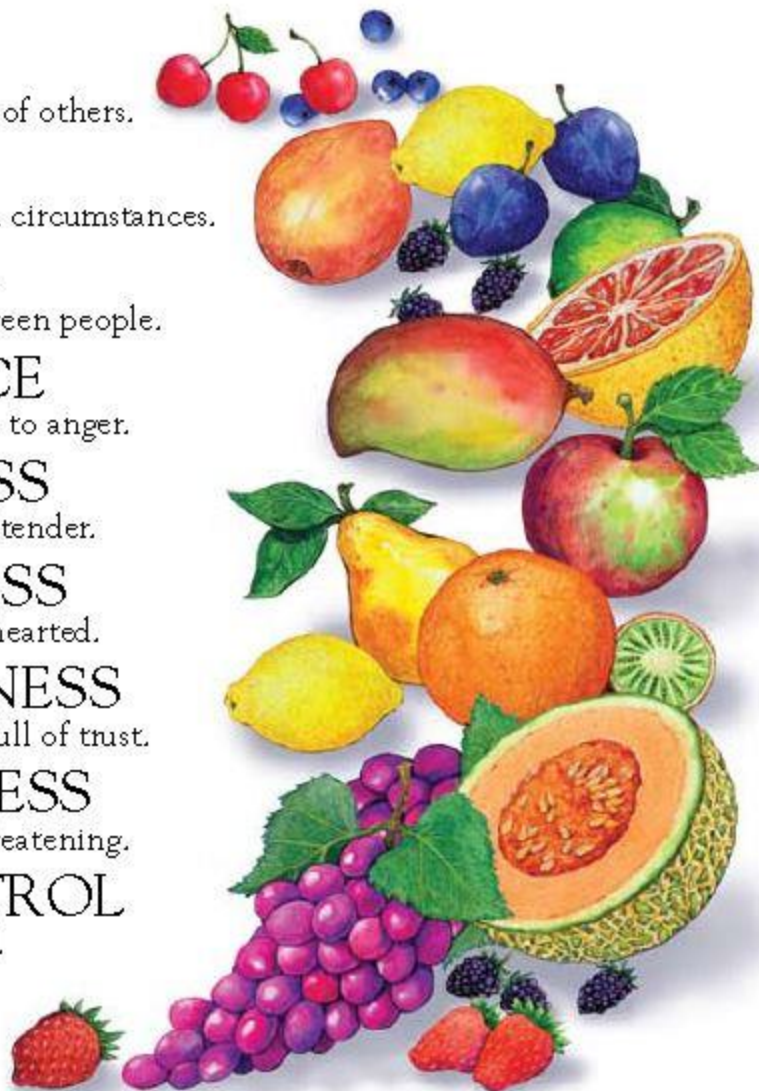
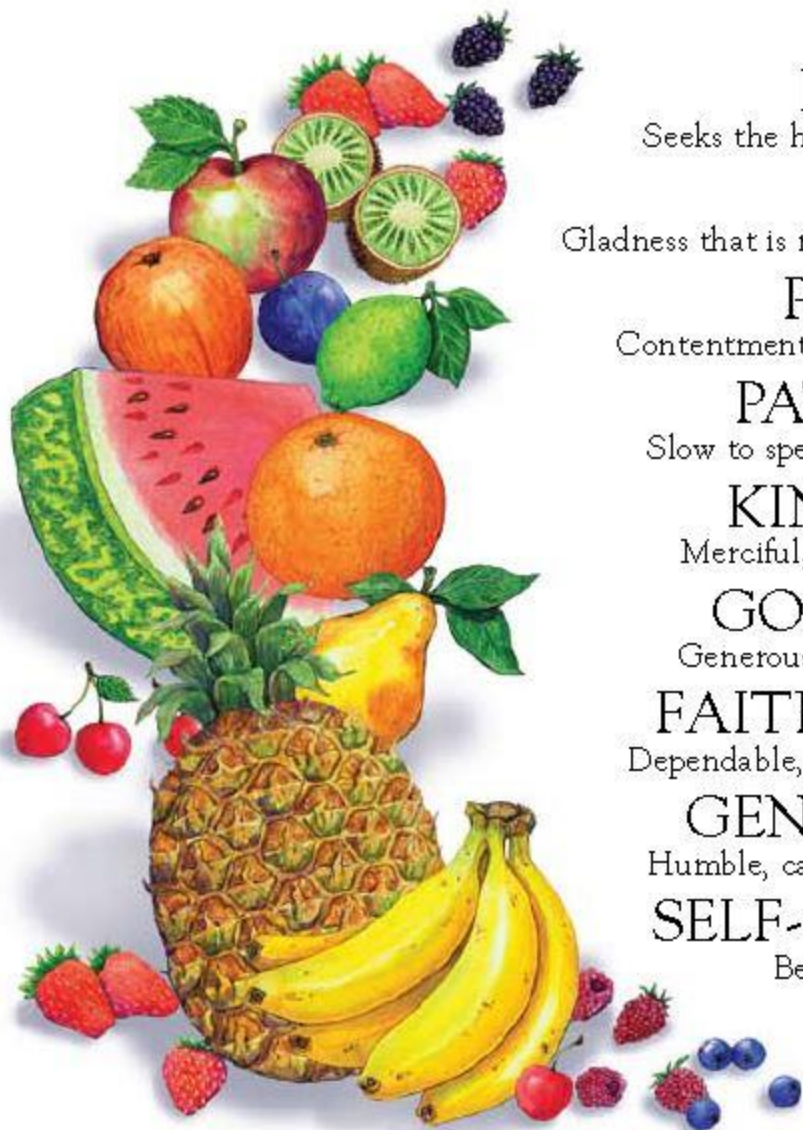
Dependable, loyal, and full of trust.

## GENTLENESS

Humble, calm, non-threatening.

## SELF-CONTROL

Behaving well.



# How does the doctrine of God the Spirit relate to my life?

## 5. What specific steps of action can I/we take to make this doctrine of the Spirit practical in my/our lives, family, world?

- This only applies to followers of Jesus Christ. Have you acknowledged your sins and accepted His free gift of salvation? It is only then that you will receive the gift of the indwelling Holy Spirit! Receive Jesus Christ as your Lord, then walk in Him (Col. 2:6).
- Take time to be holy.

*Take time to be holy,  
speak oft with thy Lord;  
abide in him always,  
and feed on his word.  
Make friends of God's children,  
help those who are weak,  
forgetting in nothing  
his blessing to seek.*

# How does the doctrine of God the Spirit relate to my life?

## 5. What specific steps of action can I/we take to make this doctrine of the Spirit practical in my/our lives, family, world? (cont.)

- We must have a daily quiet time with the Lord. Keep short accounts (confession of known sin that we ask Him to reveal); talk to Him (prayer); listen to Him and the Spirit's promptings (have a Bible reading program); take care of our bodies (His temple). In our busy, noisy world, the enemy of our souls will constantly work to prevent this from happening. If we don't have the time then we are too busy—cut out something else!
- Live in the light of the Judgment Seat of Christ (2 Cor. 5:9-10).

# How does the doctrine of God the Spirit relate to my life?

## 2 Corinthians 5:9-10 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. <sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things *done* in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

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- Live in the light of the Judgment Seat of Christ (2 Cor. 5:9-10).
- If all Christians did this individually, when they come together as a NT local church, then the church would also be full of the Spirit as each individual is being controlled and led by the Holy Spirit. That is when the church will experience Pentecostal power—but it all begins with me!

# **How does the doctrine of God the Spirit relate to my life?**

## **Conclusion:**

- 1. The Holy Spirit lives within each believer all the time.**
- 2. The Holy Spirit only empowers us to the extent that we allow Him to control us and we don't quench or grieve Him.**
- 3. The Holy Spirit is waiting for us to embrace Him.**
- 4. Close in prayer.**