



WHY THE HOLY SPIRIT SHOULD NOT BE IGNORED

SERMON 1: BECAUSE OF WHO HE IS

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WHO is this Holy Spirit that we cannot afford to ignore? How do we know that He is more than a mere force? That He is indeed a person?

I. THE HOLY SPIRIT DOES PERSONAL WORKS

A. HE SPEAKS...

1. He "expressly says" that some will depart from the faith -
1 Timothy 4:1
2. The Spirit spoke and gave directions to Philip - **Acts 8:29**
3. He spoke to Peter and gave him charge concerning the Gentiles –
Acts 10:19-20
4. He spoke to the brethren at Antioch concerning Paul and Barnabas
Acts 13:1-4

B. HE TEACHES...

1. He was to teach the apostles all things - **Jn 14:26**
2. Please note that Jesus consistently refers to the Holy Spirit as "He", not "it" (implying a personal being, not an impersonal force) - cf. **Jn 14:16-17**
(See also Lk 12:12; 1Co 2:13; Ro 8:16)

C. HE BEARS WITNESS...

1. He was to testify of Jesus - **Jn 15:26-27**

(See also Romans 8:26)

D. HE GUIDES, HEARS, SPEAKS, TELLS...

1. He would carry on and complete the work started by Jesus - **Jn 16:12-13**

E. HE FORBIDS...

1. He prevented Paul and his companions from going into certain areas of Asia - **Ac 16:6-7**

F. HE INTERCEDES...

1. The "Spirit Himself makes intercession for us" - **Ro 8:26**

(See also Acts 20:23)

G. HE WARNS/SPEAKS

(See **2Sa 23:2; Ac 8:29; 10:19; 11:12; 13:2; Rev 2:7**
1Co 2:11)

H. HE KNOWS

Gal 4:6

I. HE CALLS OUT

Jn 16:13

J. HE CREATES

(Gen 1:2).

II. THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

A. HE HAS A MIND...

1. "the mind of the Spirit" - Ro 8:27

B. HE HAS KNOWLEDGE...

1. He "knows the things of God" - 1Co 2:11

C. HE POSSESSES AFFECTION...

1. Paul speaks of "the love of the Spirit" - Ro 15:30

D. HE HAS A WILL...

1. "the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills" - 1Co 12:11

III. THE HOLY SPIRIT CAN BE PERSONALLY INJURED

A. HE CAN BE GRIEVED...

1. "do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God" - Ep 4:30

B. HE CAN BE BLASPHEMED...

Mt 12:31-32

C. HE CAN BE INSULTED...

Hebrews 10:29

D. HE CAN BE LIED TO...

1. As Ananias and his wife Sapphira were guilty of doing
(Acts 5:3)

E. HE CAN BE RESISTED...

1. As Stephen charged the Jewish leaders of doing - Acts 7:51

Friends, in all this talk about WHO the Holy Spirit is, and the fact that He is a personal being rather than an impersonal force – **what does that mean for you and me.**

- ❖ May the fact that He is at work in us, among us, through us continue to be a source of strength and encouragement. As we note the flaws and shortcomings in our lives,
 - may we surrender these to the Holy Spirit.
 - May we as clay, submit and commit our lives afresh to the Potter, to shape us and mould us into what He would have us be.
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- ❖ May the fact that He is personally aware of us and our circumstances, enable us to trust him with the big things as well as the small thing in our lives.
- ❖ May the fact that He can be personally hurt, empower us to walk in manner pleasing to Him, and when we do fail, to run quickly to Him to be restored.