

Lesson 4

The Holy Spirit

A Force or a Person?

The third Person of the Godhead is the Holy Spirit (or Holy Ghost). However, there are some religions that teach that the Holy Spirit is a powerful force or influence rather than a living Person. Study carefully the following proofs that the Holy Spirit is a Person (not just a power or force) and is God:

Personal Pronouns are used of the Holy Spirit

John 14:26 and John 16:13 refer to the Holy Spirit as "**he**"

The Holy Spirit is called "Comforter"

"But the **Comforter**, which is the Holy Ghost . . . " (John 14:26). See also John 14:16 and John 15:26. A force cannot comfort, only a *person* can do this.

The Holy Spirit has knowledge

In I Corinthians 2:11 and other verses, we find that the Holy Spirit knows "the things of God." A force cannot know anything.

The Holy Spirit does things that only a person can do

The Holy Spirit teaches (John 14:26), reproves (John 16:8), guides (John 16:13), speaks (Acts 13:2), and intercedes (Romans 8:26).

The Holy Spirit has the characteristics of a person

He is lied to (Acts 5:3), grieved (Ephesians 4:30), and blasphemed (Matthew 12:31).

He is eternal

"How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the **eternal Spirit** offered himself without spot to God . . . " (Hebrews 9:14).

He is omniscient (knows all things)

The Holy Spirit knows "the deep things of God" (I Corinthians 2:10-11). Jesus Christ told His disciples that the Holy Spirit "shall teach you all things" (John 14:26).

He is omnipotent
(has unlimited power)

The Holy Spirit has "the **power** of the Highest" according to Luke 1:35.

He is omnipresent
(present in all places at the same time)

Psalm 139:7-10 teaches that whether you go to heaven or hell or the uttermost parts of the sea, the Holy Spirit will be there. "Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?" (verse 7).

He is called God

In Acts 5:3 Peter accuses Ananias of lying "to the Holy Ghost" and in verse four says that Ananias had "not lied unto men, but unto **God**." "Now the **Lord** is that Spirit . . ." (II Corinthians 3:17).

Review Questions

True or False

1. The third Person of the Godhead is the Holy Spirit.
2. The name "Comforter" proves that the Holy Spirit is a force.
3. The Holy Spirit teaches and speaks.
4. The Holy Spirit came into existence when God created Adam and Eve.

Multiple Choice

5. The word "omnipotent" means:
 - a. Knowing all things
 - b. Able to be in all places at the same time
 - c. Never changing
 - d. having unlimited power
6. The Holy Spirit is called:

- a. God
- b. The Force
- c. A Power
- d. The Son of God

7. The Bible refers to the Holy Spirit as "he." This proves that the Holy Spirit is:

- a. An Influence
- b. A Human
- c. A Person
- d. God

Fill in the Blanks

8. "... the things of God knoweth no man, but the ____ of God" (I Corinthians 2:11).

9. Ananias ____ to the Holy Spirit.

10. _____ means to know all things.

For Further Study

1. What are two wrong ideas that some people have about the Holy Spirit?
2. If the Holy Spirit is a Person and we are persons, what is the difference between us and Him?
3. Why is the doctrine of the Personality and the Deity of the Holy Spirit so important?
4. How do Acts 10:38 and Romans 15:13 prove that the Holy Spirit is not just a power?
5. Read Genesis 1:2, Job 33:4, and Psalm 104:30. How do these verses show the Deity of the Holy Spirit?
6. In what way do Matthew 28:19 and II Corinthians 13:14 show the equality of the Holy Spirit with the Father and the Son?
7. What does the Holy Spirit do according to John 15:26 and John 16:14?
8. What is the significance of the Spirit being called the *Holy* Spirit?
9. What does the Holy Spirit do according to I Corinthians 6:11?

10. How does Luke 3:21-22 show that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are three distinct Persons? (See also Matthew 28:19 and John 14:16)

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.