HOLY SPIRIT: SELECTED MINISTRIES

God has given human teachers as a gift to His church (**Ep.4:11-12; 1Co.12:28; Rm.12:7**). Yet every believer has the indwelling Holy Spirit to 'teach' us (**1Jn.2:27; Jn.14:26; 15:26; Je.31:31-34**). Does the Holy Spirit directly teach believers new information, or does He guide us unto the truth in the Word of God?

- "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." (Jn.14:26)
- "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:" (Jn.15:26)
- "But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him." (1Jn.2:27)

HOLY SPIRIT

ELIEVER

The Spirit of God uses the inspired Word of God, of which He is the Author (2Tm.3:16-17; 2Pe.1:20-21), to communicate God's truth to us (Jn.16:13-15; I Cor. 2:10-11). He makes the Word of God real to us. The canon is inerrant (w/o error) and plenary (full in every way).

The Holy Spirit of God indwells (anoints, 1Jn.2:20,27) us which enables us to understand truth (Jn.14:17; 1Co.2:9-10, 14). He affirms the truth in our hearts by opening our understanding to the depth of God's revealed Word. He helps us to discern truth from error, which keeps us from going astray.

The Spirit of God points to Christ and makes Him very real to us. He always bears witness of Christ (Jn.14:26; 15:26), and reminds us of His presence and words (Jn.12:16).

The Holy Spirit helps us to be sensitive to what God is doing (Jn.14:21,26,29; 1Co.6:17). We know the Lord and His ways from His Word. We spend time with people who love the Lord and are strong in heart (Ac.2:42; Hb.10:25; 1Jn.1:7). Sin breaks that fellowship.

He convicts us of sin, righteousness, and judgment (**Jn.16:8**). He assures us that Christ really exists, and our absolute need of Him. It is not simply having a guilty conscience or even shame over sin. Man may be aware of the consequences of sin, yet not experience conviction. "Reprove" (Gk. *elencho*, to accuse, to convict) is like a prosecuting attorney who exposes evil. Because He points to Christ, he shows the need for a Savior. When the Philippian jailer fell at the apostles' feet and cried, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" he was under conviction that without a Savior he would die.

As Teacher, the Holy Spirit illuminates the truths already given to us in the Word of God (Jn.14:26;15:26). He is the Author of the Word of God, and so is the best interpreter. He ignites faith which includes, among other things, bringing to mind appropriate verses at the right moment. The base understanding of Scripture is designed to be understood. The Spirit gives the text power and applicational meaning, while pointing to Christ.

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Tom Elseroad • 09-12-2015 • HS-Selected-Ministry.cdr

ONVICTS