
THE HOLY SPIRIT

Talk 1: The Spirit of Christ

*"What about elevenses? Luncheon? Afternoon tea? Dinner? Supper?" Pippin,
The Fellowship of the Ring, J.R.R. Tolkien*

INTRODUCTION

"We need more of the Spirit!"

A. THE SEARCH FOR THE SPIRITUAL

1. The modern charismatic movement: the search for experience

"God's presence is real. You can feel it because it is with you wherever you go."
Bill Hybels, *Too busy not to pray*.

"Through the indwelling Spirit the human spirit is brought into immediate contact with higher spiritual reality. It looks upon, tastes, feels and sees the powers of the world to come and has a conscious encounter with God invisible. To such a man God is not a conclusion drawn from evidence nor is He the sum of what the Bible teaches about Him. He knows God in the last irreducible meaning of the word know...The Triune God wills to dwell in the redeemed man's heart, constantly making his presence known."
A. W. Tozer, *Man: The Dwelling Place of God*

2. The Pentecostal movement: the search for authenticity

3. The medieval mystics: the search for intimacy

"For until I am fully one with him, I can never have full rest nor true bliss; that is to say, until I am so at one with him that no thing created comes between us, my God and me." Julian of Norwich

"If we become aware that we have strayed from God, then we should leave all things and go quickly to the Temple, which means to say...our inner Temple, in our deep ground. When we have fully withdrawn there, then we shall without doubt find God and know him again." Johannes Tauler

"As often as I turn my gaze inward upon my inward self, I am at once within the domain of eternity."
Friedrich Schleiermacher

4. The Greek philosophers: the search for reality

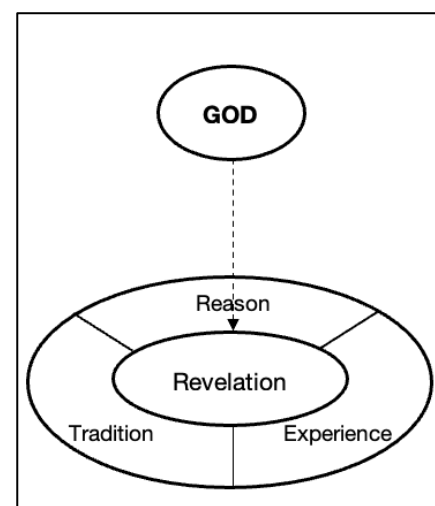
5. The Reformers: the return to revelation

Tradition

Reason

Experience

Revelation



“Christ sets bounds for the message of the Holy Spirit Himself. He is not to preach anything new or anything else than Christ and His Word....it surely does not indicate the presence of the Holy Spirit when a person proclaims his own thoughts and notions and begins to teach in Christendom something apart from or in addition to what Christ taught.” Martin Luther, *Works*

“Is not all the doctrine of God contained in the Bible? What can a man say more?”
John Calvin, *Sermons on the Epistles of Timothy and Titus*

“God’s people are led by the Spirit, when they are led by the word inspired by the Spirit....and they are taught by God, when taught by his Book: No Spirit of Christ doth abstract any man’s faith from the Word of God.”
Richard Hollinworth, *The Holy Ghost on the Bench*

B. THE LEGACY OF THE SEARCH FOR THE SPIRITUAL

1. Vertical vs horizontal

Mark 12:29 "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

James 1:27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

1 John 4:7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love

Jeremiah 22:16 [Josiah] defended the cause of the poor and needy, and so all went well. Is that not what it means to know me?" declares the LORD.

2. "Spiritual" vs physical

1 Corinthians 15:42 So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; 43 it is sown in dishonour, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; 44 it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.

3. Subjective individualism vs the God who is there

"Religion has to shift from moralism to mysticism, with less emphasis on the God 'out there' and more emphasis on the God within...with the collapse of belief in the traditional image of God, we have to find God in a new place, and the most convincing place will be our own human hearts."
David Tacey, The Spirituality Revolution

"Spirituality is an inner feeling, an allowance of however you perceive it in your world, in your mind, and however it feels is OK. Spirituality...lifts you up to be better person, a more open person. I don't think religion does that. Religion tells you what to do and when to do it, when to kneel, when to stand up, all of that sort of stuff. Lots of rules." Quoted in Wade Roof, Spiritual Marketplace

"God is not a single monad or an impersonal absolute, but God is relationship. God is Trinity... Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Through the revelation of the Trinity we learn that the living God, the good and true God, is a God who has relationship within himself and that the values of relationships ultimately belong to reality in its most absolute form." David Broughton Knox, Selected Works

"You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You." Augustine.

4. Everything now vs “now but not yet”

1 Peter 1: 7 These [trials] have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Romans 8:23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

“As long as we live in the ‘not yet’ of this age, we will thirst for more of the living water. We will groan at the frustration of this. But we must turn our ears away from those who promise finally to quench that thirst and quell that groaning here and now”. Michael Raiter, *Stirrings of the Soul*

C. THE END OF THE SEARCH: THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST

Romans 8:1-11

Conclusion

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Response: write down one idea that you would like to think more about



THE HOLY SPIRIT

Talk 2: The Coming of the Spirit of Christ

"Toto, I have a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore." Dorothy, The Wizard of Oz

INTRODUCTION



What do you want the Holy Spirit to do in your life?

Luke 24:44-49

Stage 1



Stage 2

Stage 3

THE PROMISE OF THE SPIRIT

A. THE SPIRIT OF GOD

Genesis 1:1-3

Hebrew (OT): רוּחַ (ruach) = breath, wind, spirit

Greek (NT): πνεύμα (pneuma) = breath, wind, spirit

Implications:

1. Powerful

Exodus 15:10

But you blew with your ruach, and the sea covered them.
They sank like lead in the mighty waters.

Judges 15:19 Then God opened up the hollow place in Lehi, and water came out of it. When Samson drank, his ruach returned and he revived. So the spring was called En Hakkore, and it is still there in Lehi.

Zechariah 4:6 So he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my ruach,' says the LORD Almighty.

Isaiah 63: 1-14

Where is he who set
his Holy Spirit among them,
12 who sent his glorious arm of power
to be at Moses' right hand,
who divided the waters before them,
to gain for himself everlasting renown,
13 who led them through the depths?
Like a horse in open country,
they did not stumble;
14 like cattle that go down to the plain,
they were given rest by the Spirit of the LORD.

2. Personal

Psalms 51:11 Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Haggai 2:4 For I am with you,' declares the LORD Almighty. 5 'This is what I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt. And my Spirit remains among you. Do not fear.'

3. Sovereign

Gen. 6:3 Then the LORD said, "My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal; his days will be a hundred and twenty years."

Job 32:8 But it is the spirit in a man, the breath of the Almighty, that gives him understanding.

Job 33:4 The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

Job 34:14 If it were [God's] intention and he withdrew his spirit and breath, 15 all mankind would perish together and man would return to the dust.

Psalms 104:27 These all look to you to give them their food at the proper time. 28 When you give it to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are satisfied with good things. 29 When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their ruach, they die and return to the dust. 30 When you send your ruach, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.

John 3:5 Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. 7 You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ 8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

4. Life-giving

Ezekiel 36-37

“What an extraordinary place!” cried Lucy. “All those stone animals—and people too! It’s—it’s like a museum.”
 “Hush,” said Susan, “Aslan’s doing something.” C.S. Lewis, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*

5. Speaking

Psalms 33:6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth.

1 Kings 18: 27 At noon Elijah began to taunt them. “Shout louder!” he said. “Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened.” 28 So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. 29 Midday passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention.

B. LOOKING FOR THE SPIRIT

1. Spirit people

Exodus 31:1 Then the LORD said to Moses, 2 “See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, 3 and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts— 4 to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze...

	Who had the Spirit	What did they do?
In the time of Moses		
Exodus 31:1-7	Bezalel and Oholiab	Built the tabernacle
Numbers 11:16-17,25,26,29	Seventy elders	Help Moses lead: inc those not there. Not everyone with the Spirit is a prophet. M wishes everyone was a pr and had the Sp!
Deuteronomy 34:9	Joshua	Ready to lead Israel, like Moses
Nehemiah 9:20	Moses	To instruct the people (looking back on numbers)
In the time of the judges		
Judges 3:7-11	Othniel	Led Israel to victory, defeating enemies
Judges 5:11-15	Samson	Led Israel to victory, defeating enemies
In the time of the kings		
1 Samuel 10:1,6,9,9-11,	Saul	Prophesied with a changed heart
1 Samuel 16:13	David	Became king
2 Samuel 23:1-2	David	Prophesied
1 Chronicles 28:11-12	David	Planned the temple
In the time of the prophets		
2 Chronicles 24:20	Zechariah	Prophesied
Ezekiel 2:1-8	Ezekiel	Prophesied
Zechariah 7:12	Earlier pr's	Prophesied
Nehemiah 9:20,30	Prophets	Sp given to admonish the people

2. The Spirit age

Numbers 11:29 "I wish that all the LORD'S people were prophets and that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!"

Isaiah 4:4 The Lord will wash away the filth of the women of Zion; he will cleanse the bloodstains from Jerusalem by a spirit of judgment and a spirit of fire.

Isaiah 32:14 The fortress will be abandoned, the noisy city deserted; citadel and watchtower will become a wasteland forever, the delight of donkeys, a pasture for flocks, 15 till the Spirit is poured upon us from on high, and the desert becomes a fertile field, and the fertile field seems like a forest.

Joel 2:28-32

3. The Spirit man

Isaiah 11:1-5

Isaiah 52- 53

Isaiah 61:1-3

Summary of OT expectations:

1. The Spirit king
2. Will establish a kingdom of Spirit people
3. Through his suffering and vindication

THE COMING OF THE SPIRIT

Luke 1:35 The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God."

Luke 3:16 John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."



Luke 3:22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

Luke 4:1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert,

Luke 4:18 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed,

Luke 24:45-53

Response



What do you want the Holy Spirit to do in your life?

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Talk 3: The Age of the Spirit

"Oh, you can get lonely, and a cat's no help with that."
The Pet Shop Boys

INTRODUCTION

John 14:12 I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

THE AGE OF THE SPIRIT BEGINS

Acts 2:1-41

1. Sound: 2

2. Sight: 3

3. Speech: 4-13

A brief digression on tongues....

1.

2.

3.

4.

"To identify a church as 'Spirit-filled' based on the modern practice of tongue speaking is to identify the church as unspiritual. For a truly Spirit-filled church will be known as one that preaches the crucified Christ as Lord and Saviour - just as the true mark of Christ's disciples is not speaking in tongues but loving each other." Phillip Jensen. *The Coming of the Holy Spirit*

5.

4. Sermon

a.. The last days are here: 14-21

b. In the last days Jesus is Lord: 22-36

c. Jesus is Lord, so repent and be saved: 37-41

5. Spirit-filled people: 42-47

a. Fear

b. Learning

c. Fellowship

d. Hospitality

e. Generosity

f. Prayer

g. Growth

MAKING THE MOST OF THE AGE OF THE SPIRIT

Acts 1:8-11

Response: write down one idea that you would like to think more about



THE HOLY SPIRIT

Talk 4: The Work of the Spirit

"For the growing good of the world is partly dependant on unhistoric acts, and that things are not so ill with you and me as they might have been is half owing to the number who lived faithfully a hidden life and rest in unvisited tombs." George Eliot, Middlemarch

INTRODUCTION

"Think of it this way. It is as if the Spirit stands behind us, throwing light over our shoulder, on Jesus, who stands facing us. The Spirit's message is never, "Look at me; listen to me; come to me; get to know me," but always "Look at him, and see his glory; listen to him, and hear his word; go to him, and have life; get to know him, and taste his gift of joy and peace." J. I. Packer, *Keeping in Step with the Spirit*

A: THE SPIRIT AND JESUS

1. A person, not a force

2. United, but distinct

3. One mission, not two

Luke 1:35 The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God."

"There is no doctrine of a work of the Holy Spirit separated from the work of Jesus anywhere in the New Testament". David Jackman, *Spirit of Truth*

B: THE SPIRIT BRINGS JESUS TO THE WORLD BY THE WORD

1. The Spirit brings Jesus to the world

John 12

John 14-16

1. The counsellor: 14:16-17
2. The teacher: 14:25-26
3. The witness: 15:26-27
4. The prosecutor: 16:8-11
5. The guide: 16:13-14

2. The Spirit brings Jesus to the world by the word

2 Peter 1:19 And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. 20 Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. 21 For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

2 Tim 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

C. THE SPIRIT, THE WORD AND YOU

1. Hearing the word

Genesis 15

A brief digression on emotions....

a. Beginning

1 Peter 1: 23 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

He speaks; and listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.

O for a thousand tongues to sing, Charles Wesley

b. Middle

*Isaiah 66: 2 This is the one I esteem:
he who is humble and contrite in spirit,
and trembles at my word.*

c. End

Psalms 92

12 *The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,
they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon;*
13 *planted in the house of the LORD,
they will flourish in the courts of our God.*
14 *They will still bear fruit in old age,
they will stay fresh and green,*
15 *proclaiming, "The LORD is upright;
he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him."*

2. Speaking the word

a. To God

b. To each other

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom

1 Thessalonians 5:11 Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

Hebrews 3:13 But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. 25 Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

c. To those who do not know Christ

Acts 4:8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! 9 If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, 10 then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.

Acts 4:31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.


Acts 9:28 So Saul stayed with them and moved about freely in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord.

Acts 13:46 Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: "We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles.

Acts 19:8 Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God.

Acts 28:31 Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ.

Response: write down one idea that you would like to think more about



THE HOLY SPIRIT

Talk 5: The Freedom of the Spirit

"Peter did not feel very brave; indeed, he felt he was going to be sick. But that made no difference to what he had to do." C.S. Lewis, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

INTRODUCTION

2 Corinthians 3:7 - 4:18

A. THE SPIRIT BRINGS US TO CHRIST

Ephesians 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

Ephesians 1:13 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

To all those for whom Christ has purchased redemption, He does certainly and effectually apply and communicate the same; making intercession for them, and revealing unto them, in and by the word, the mysteries of salvation; effectually persuading them by His Spirit to believe and obey, and governing their hearts by His word and Spirit; overcoming all their enemies by His almighty power and wisdom, in such manner, and ways, as are most consonant to His wonderful and unsearchable dispensation.

Westminster Confession of Faith. Chapter VIII, Paragraph viii

How do we receive those benefits which the father bestowed on his only begotten son not in Christ own private use that that he might enrich poor and needy men? First, we must understand, that as long as Christ remained out side of us and we are separated from him all that he has suffered and done for the salvation of the human race remains useless and had no value for us. John Calvin

B. THE SPIRIT TRANSFORMS US INTO THE LIKENESS OF CHRIST

1. Filled with the Spirit

Ephesians 5:15 Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. 18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. 19 Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, 20 always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

2. The fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5

Matthew 7:16 Do people pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? 17 Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

3. Freedom to serve

A brief digression on gifts....

1.

2.

1 Corinthians 12: 27 And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues

3.

The way to determine our spiritual gifts is not to ask, 'What is my 'thing' spiritually, my spiritual speciality, that sets me apart from other believers and gives me a distinguishing niche in the church?' Rather, the NT on the whole takes a much more functional or situational approach. The question to ask is, 'What in the situation in which God has placed me are the particular opportunities I see for serving other believers in word and deed?'" Richard Gaffin

4.

1 Corinthians 13:1 If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

5.

1 Cor. 12:7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

Ephesians 4:11 11 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12 to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

1 Peter 4:10 Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

C. THE SPIRIT ENABLES THE WORK OF CHRIST

4. THE SPIRIT HELPS US MAKE IT TO THE END

Response: write down one idea that you would like to think more about



