

FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH

WEEK 6 - PNEUMATOLOGY

DEFINITION OF PNEUMATOLOGY: The Doctrine/Study of the Holy Spirit

1. WHO IS HE? - The Holy Spirit is not just a Thing, a Being, or a Force ... He is a Person, the 3rd person of the Trinity; He has special characteristics and functions that demonstrate His personality.

* The Holy Spirit is not a physical being, but is a Spirit; He is not restricted to a body, but He is not personality and individuality which are demonstrated by His attributes.

2. SOME ATTRIBUTES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

1) KNOWLEDGE - 1 Cor. 2: 10 - "the Spirit searches the deep things of God"
- 1 Cor. 2:13 - "the Spirit teaches us"

2) EMOTION - Rom. 15:30 - "the love of the Spirit"

3) A WILL - 1 Cor. 12:11 - "as He wills"

4) OMNIPOTENCE - Rom. 15:19 - "the power of the Spirit"

5) OMNISCIENCE - 1 Cor. 2:11 - "the Spirit knows the thoughts of God"

6) OMNIPRESENCE - 1 Cor. 12:4-6 - one Spirit, one Lord, one God for all

* The Holy Spirit is God ... He is one with the Father and Son (1 John 5:7).

3. HIS ROLE AND FUNCTION IN THE TRINITY:

1) fulfils God's will and purpose

2) Reveals Jesus Christ

3) Draws people to Jesus

4) Convicts us of sin

5) In-fills us with Himself [Spirit]

4. WHAT JESUS REVEALED ABOUT HIM: (John 14:16, 17,26)

a) He is a "Counselor" (v.16) -literally means" a person summoned to one's aid "; refers to a Friend, One who will help those who need Him, a Comforter and Defender.

b) He would be with us forever (v.16) - He took the place of Jesus, and is the presence of Christ on this earth; He abides with us continuously.

c) He is the "Spirit of Truth" (v.17) - He is the Spirit of God, and God is a God of truth; the Holy Spirit reveals the truth to us and applies it to our lives.

d) The world does not know Him (v.17) - the world's eyes are blinded by sin ; they have no knowledge of the things of the Spirit, and are unaware of His workings.

e) We know Him (v.17) - if we know Jesus, we will know the Holy Spirit in our lives, and we will be able to see His work in us (becoming more like Jesus).

f) He lives with us, and in us (v.17) - not only is He our Companion and Helper, but when we come to know Jesus, He comes to dwell in us, and lives in us (1 Cor. 6:19 - "your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God").

g) He teaches us all things (v.26) - teaches us the things of God and how to be like Jesus.

5. AREAS IN WHICH THE HOLY SPIRIT WORKS:

1) CREATION - Gen. 1:2 - the Holy Spirit is associated with both the creation of the world and the new creation of life in a born again believer.

2) THE UNSAVED - He convicts those who are still in sin, reveals Jesus Christ, makes them aware of a saving God and the possibility of change; He uses believers and God's Word as a means to do this.

3) THE OLD TESTAMENT - He touched and came upon men of God, enabling them to carry out God's work, and giving them the knowledge that God was directing them.

4) THE LIFE OF JESUS - Jesus' birth was by the Holy Spirit; the Spirit drove him into the wilderness to be tempted; Jesus resisted the temptation in the power of the Spirit, and did many miracles and mighty works as He walked in the Spirit.

5) THE CHURCH - He launched the church on the Day of Pentecost; He guided the church, protected it, directed it, and was the key to the ministry of the apostles (eg. Stephen was full of the Holy Spirit, and the people could not stand up to his word or authority); He broke down racial barriers (eg. Philip ministered to the Samaritans).

6) THE INDIVIDUAL .. He brings spiritual life, He indwells us, He assures us of our salvation, He sanctifies (purifies) us, He empowers us, He assists us in our worship, He adopts us as children of God, He guides us, He has fellowship with us, He anoints us to minister to others, He seals our relationship with Jesus Christ, He teaches us the things of God.

** The Holy Spirit removes all of our excuses to not live a good Christian life like God intends for us to live ... the Holy Spirit enables us to live it!!!