

John 16; Lord's Day 20
FAITH IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

- I. Who He is.
 - A. The Holy Spirit is a Person (not just a power), the third Person of the Trinity: God the Spirit.
 - 1. He is a distinct Person in the Godhead (John 14:16; 14:26; 16:8,13,14).
 - 2. He is equal with God the Father and God the Son.
 - B. He is given to the church as the Spirit of Christ.
 - 1. He was first given to Jesus at His exaltation as Head of the church (Acts 2:33), and then Jesus gave this Spirit to the church.
 - 2. The Spirit indwells each elect, uniting each church member to Christ and to each other (I Cor. 12:12,13; Eph. 4:3).
- II. The Spirit is the means Christ uses to distribute the benefits He earned. We partake of Christ's benefits through the Spirit.
 - A. First, the Spirit regenerates, giving the new life in Christ to those previously dead in sin (John 3:8; Rom. 8:10,11; Ezek. 37).
 - B. The "Spirit of truth" leads the church and each believer into all truth (John 16:13; I Tim. 4:1).
 - C. The Spirit convicts of sin (John 16:9).
 - D. The Spirit convinces the regenerated that Jesus is the Son of God and that He earned forgiveness in His suffering and death.
 - 1. He convinces us through faith that we have the perfect righteousness of Christ imputed and freely given us as our own.
 - 2. The Spirit convinces us that we have peace with God through Jesus (Rom. 5:1), so we are filled with thankfulness.
 - E. The Spirit sanctifies, conforming us more and more to the image of God's Son (Titus 3:5; II Thess. 2:13; I Peter 1:2).
 - F. The Spirit seals us "to the day of redemption" (Eph. 4:30).
- III. The Spirit makes us partakers of final salvation by promise, for He is the earnest of it (II Cor. 1:22; 5:5; Eph. 1:14).
 - A. Let us be aware of His presence in us, though He never speaks of Himself (only of Jesus).
 - 1. It is He Who unites us to Jesus, our Husband (I Cor. 3:16).
 - 2. Let us live as though our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, and we must take care of them for Him!
 - B. Let us be careful not to "grieve" or "quench" the Spirit (Eph. 4:30; I Thess. 5:19).
 - C. See evidence of the Spirit at work in us.