

What Did Jesus Say About the Holy Spirit?

In all matters of faith and practice, nothing can be more important to a Christian than what Jesus Christ says about the Holy Spirit.

- Jesus is God's Son, the Messiah, the only Savior of sinners and our Lord. We believe as the writer of Hebrews says, "God...has in these last days spoken to us by His Son."
Heb. 1:1-2
- Everything we can know about what Jesus said about the Holy Spirit is found in the four Gospels and the first chapter of the Acts of the Apostles.

1. Jesus, God's Anointed One – referenced the Holy Spirit.

As Jesus' earthly ministry began in Galilee, He publically proclaimed Himself to be the Messiah, by reading a prophetic passage about Himself from Isaiah 61:1-3 found in Luke 4:18-19:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to **preach the gospel** to the poor; He has sent Me to **heal the brokenhearted**, to **proclaim liberty to the captives** and **recovery of sight to the blind**, to **set at liberty those who are oppressed**; to **proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord**."

v. 21- "Today, this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.

Messiah means – "The Anointed One."

The Messiah as foretold in the O.T. would have a special anointing of the Holy Spirit to perform His **ministry** and fulfill His **mission**.

- Jesus was declaring that His preaching – teaching – healing was all done by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- As Jesus declared of Himself that The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me; Peter would say – Acts 10:38-
"God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."

Jesus successfully engaged in ministry by the power of the Holy Spirit, and He fulfilled His mission of dying for our sins and rising from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit.

By His example – Jesus taught that the anointing of the Holy Spirit makes the difference between success and failure in serving the Lord.

He sets the example for us to be empowered by the Holy Spirit for Christian **living** – **doing Christian ministry** – and **fulfilling God’s purpose** for our lives.

Isa. 10:27 “It shall come to pass on that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off your shoulder, and his yoke from off your neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.” The Anointing Breaks the Yoke!

2. Role of the Holy Spirit and the New Birth – Regeneration:

John 3:5-8 When Nicodemus, the religious leader came to talk with Jesus, they got into the discussion of the new birth – regeneration.

Jesus words: “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, You must be born again, the wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

- Jesus was speaking to Nicodemus of being transformed into a right relationship with God as was taught in the Psalms and probably referred to Ezek. 36:25-27:
“Then will I sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean;... I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgements and do them.”
- Jesus makes it clear then and now that being born again is a spiritual transformation, effected by cleansing from sin by God’s Spirit taking up residence in a person, giving that person a new heart and new attitude which empowers the person to live a new life of willful obedience to God. **Are you living in the New Life?**
- 2Tim. 2:19 “Nevertheless the foundation of God stands sure, having this seal, **The Lord knows them that are His. And, let everyone that names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.**”

3. Jesus’ teaching about the Holy Spirit in John 14:15-18:

“If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever – the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him but you know Him,

for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.”

- Jesus said that: **Love for Him, proven by obedience to Him**, are the conditions for receiving the Helper – Comforter, Holy Spirit.
Acts 5:32- “We are His witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Spirit, **whom God has given to them that obey Him.**”

Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would be **another Helper** – “**another**” means “the same as.”

- The Holy Spirit would be like Jesus, and would help His disciples in the same way He had been a helper to them while on earth.
- The Holy Spirit will give you the same help as Jesus would if He were physically present with us in the flesh.

4. **Jesus’ teaching about the Holy Spirit in John 14:26:**

Jesus said to the twelve: “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, who the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”

- Two ways the Helper – The Holy Spirit helps the believer:
 1. The Holy Spirit is a Teacher- Jesus being the greatest teacher, now the Holy Spirit teaches believers “all things” that Jesus said.
 - This enables the believer to understand and apply the teachings of Jesus as learned through the Word of God. REVELATION OF TRUTH.
 - **Empowers** the believer to live a more fruitful and productive life to honor God.
 2. The Holy Spirit brings “all things” to the remembrance of the believer –
 - A very practical aspect of the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to remind believers of what Jesus said in order not only to know – but to believe and obey the words of Jesus.

5. **Jesus’ teaching about the Holy Spirit in John 16:7-14:**

This is Jesus’ longest continuous teaching about the Holy Spirit, giving more light into the function and ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer.

“I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper – the Comforter will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.

And when He comes, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they do not believe in Me; of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when He, the Spirit of Truth has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.”

1. The Holy Spirit has a ministry to the unbelieving world- vv. 8-11

- To **convict** the world and **convince** them regarding the redemptive work of Christ.
- He convicts and convinces the unsaved of their sinfulness and lost condition.
- Where the Gospel is made known, the Holy Spirit works to make people aware of their lostness and need for Christ’s redemption.
- The Holy Spirit convinces the unsaved of God’s judgment against sin, and the only way of escape is through trusting Christ for salvation.
- The lost cannot be brought to salvation without the work of the Holy Spirit.
- It is our responsibility to testify and witness to the Love and God through Christ; it is the Holy Spirit’s ministry to convict and convince people of their need for Christ.

2. The Holy Spirit has a ministry to the believer- vv.12-14

“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when He, the Spirit of Truth has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.”

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6. What did Jesus say about receiving the Gift of the Holy Spirit?

- After the Resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples and gave them a command:
- John 20:22 “Receive the Holy Spirit.”
- Luke is the only Gospel writer who gives these instructions Jesus said.

Other directives of Jesus concerning receiving the Holy Spirit:

Luke 24: 46, 49 “Then He [Jesus] said to them...Behold, I send the Promise of My Father to you; but wait in Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”

Acts 1:4-5, 8 “And being assembled together with them [disciples], He [Jesus] commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, which, He said, you have heard of from Me; for John truly baptized with water; but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now...you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

This Promise was imparted & received on the Day of Pentecost which followed Jesus’ Ascension. Acts 2:1-4.

The Church, from the beginning until the present, has made a **distinction** between the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in the believer that comes with the new birth, and receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit, [Baptized or Filled with the Holy Spirit] for empowerment in the Christian life.

1. By the indwelling of the Holy Spirit that comes to us in regeneration or being saved, we are made the children of God.
2. By the receiving of the Gift of the Holy Spirit that comes to us after regeneration, we are spiritually empowered for Christian living and ministry.

One more promise from God to you concerning receiving the Holy Spirit:

Luke 11:13 “If you then being human/natural, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will your Heavenly Father** give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?”

It is the will of God and the will of Jesus that every believer in Christ who is born again – saved – regenerated by faith in Jesus Christ, that they should receive the Gift of the Holy spirit for empowerment for life and ministry.

Jesus said if we will ask the Father, He will give us the Holy Spirit.