

Series: Holy Spirit

Part 1: A Brief History of the Holy Spirit

Sunday Oct. 16, 2016

1. Q. Where and when did the *Holy Spirit* come on the scene?
2. Trick question for two reasons:
 - A. The Holy Spirit (being God) has *always* been on the scene.
 - B. The Holy Spirit never exists or functions apart from the Father and Son.
3. In short: The Father is called God. The Son is called God. The Holy Spirit is called God. And God is one God. Combining these four statements - affirms the Trinity.
4. Before Jesus – the Spirit was known among the Israelite people as:
 - the “Spirit of God”
 - the “breath of God”
 - the “Spirit of the Lord”
5. The Spirit of God, the Breath of God, the Spirit of the Lord - empowered God’s people for special ministries.
6. *You are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you (us). And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you (Ro. 8:9-11; cf. 1 Cor. 12:4-6; Eph. 4:4-6; Heb. 9:14).*
7. Do we suffer from “Holy Spirit shyness” or “Holy Spirit Deficit Disorder?” If so, why?
8. The Protestant Reformation
9. The Radical Reformation.
10. *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Gal. 5:22-23).*
11. Conclusions:
 1. Nobody’s perfect.
 2. Working harder is not the answer. Abiding in Christ is the answer.

Study Notes

DISCUSSION

1. Rob suggested the every believer ought to have the fruit of the spirit evident in their life. What do you think about that? Does that create pressure to live and be a certain way? Would that pressure necessarily be unhealthy?
2. Which of the fruit do you see most in evidence in your life? Why do you think that is? Which of the fruit do you see least in evidence in your life? Why do you think that is?

BIBLE

3. Read John 15:4-5. How do you remain in Christ? How do you think remaining in Christ produces the fruit of the Spirit?

4. Paul concludes the spiritual fruit passage with this statement: *Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit (Gal. 5:25).* What do you think Paul means by this?

APPLICATION

5. What spiritual fruit do you think people in and around your life most right now?
6. What steps will you take to remain in Christ Jesus this week?