

Holy SPIRIT

MESSAGE:

RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT

PASSAGE: ACTS 19:1-2 ESV

And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. 2 And he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” And they said, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.”

MESSAGE GOAL:

The goal of this message is to educate, correct misconceptions, and inspire you to receive, yield to, and obey the Holy Spirit.

INTRODUCTION

There are some people who have never heard of the Holy Spirit. There are others who have heard of the Holy Spirit but have no knowledge of it. There are still others who have knowledge of an evil spirit, which they have been told is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is made known through the revelation of God’s word, yet many do not know God’s word and hence do not know the Holy Spirit. This ignorance of the Holy Spirit leaves people vulnerable to be deceived by evil spirits or the spirit of this world (2 Corinthians 4:4). One consequence

of this ignorance is the same consequence associated with not truly knowing the Father and Son: the Holy Spirit has been associated with things that the Spirit has nothing to do with and mistakenly identified as other spirits. Check out what 1 Timothy 4:1 says, “The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.”

Friends, just as Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:14), just as Satan’s servants masquerade as servants of righteousness (2 Corinthians 11:15), and just as some shepherds, or as we call them, pastors, have come to God’s people in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ferocious wolves (Matthew 7:15), there are evil spirits that disguise themselves as the Holy Spirit.

With that being said, let me tell you what the Word says about the Holy Spirit, that you may hear about the Holy Spirit, know about the Holy Spirit, and receive the Holy Spirit.

THE FUNCTION(S) OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Holy SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit was present in both the Old and New Testaments.

In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit was hovering over the waters, preparing for the word of God to come forth and create something out of nothing (Genesis 1:2). The Holy Spirit filled men like Joseph (Genesis 41:38), builders like Bezalel (Exodus 31:3), judges like Gideon (Judges 6:34), prophets like Azariah (2 Chronicles 15:1), and kings like David (1 Samuel 16:13) to accomplish God's purposes in the Old Testament.

To accomplish God's purposes in the New Testament:

- The Holy Spirit brings conviction, leading people to God's forgiveness. (Matthew 12:31-32)
- The Holy Spirit is who Jesus baptizes believers with. (Mark 1:8)
- The Holy Spirit fills us with thanksgiving because of God's word. (Luke 10:21)
- The Holy Spirit is gifted to sinful people when they sincerely ask God. (Luke 11:13)
- The Holy Spirit coaches people on what to say in challenging situations. (Luke 12:12)
- The Holy Spirit empowers believers to spread the Gospel and be witnesses. (Luke 24:49)
- The Holy Spirit enables disciples of Christ to be born again and enter the kingdom of God. (John 3:5-6)

- The Holy Spirit moves and acts according to God's will. (John 3:8)
- The Holy Spirit enables true worship to God. (John 4:23-24)
- The Holy Spirit gives true life. (John 6:63)
- The Holy Spirit is given to true followers of Jesus Christ. (John 7:39)
- The Holy Spirit lives in believers and guides them to follow Jesus' teachings. (John 14:16-17)
- The Holy Spirit teaches believers and helps them remember Jesus' teachings. (John 14:26)
- The Holy Spirit comes from the Father and testifies about Jesus. (John 15:26)
- The Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. (John 16:7-8)
- The Holy Spirit tells believers the words of Jesus and brings glory to Him. (John 16:13-14)
- The Holy Spirit pours out His spirit on men and women to preach the good news. (Acts 2:17a)
- The Holy Spirit gives the young dreams and the old visions. (Acts 2:17b)
- The Holy Spirit enables believers to speak the word of God with boldness. (Acts 4:31)
- The Holy Spirit gives believers wisdom and power to speak. (Acts 6:10)
- The Holy Spirit gives out assignments on behalf of the Lord Jesus Christ. (Acts 8:29)
- The Holy Spirit strengthens the church and causes it to grow. (Acts 9:31)

Holy SPIRIT

- The Holy Spirit fills people who truly hear the words of Jesus and confirms their salvation. (Acts 10:44-45)
- The Holy Spirit sets apart believers for the work of the Lord. (Acts 13:2)
- The Holy Spirit enables believers to confront magicians, witches, and others who seek to turn people from the faith. (Acts 13:9)
- The Holy Spirit fills believers with joy and empowers them to endure persecution. (Acts 13:52)
- The Holy Spirit guides the church and confirms its decisions. (Acts 15:28)
- The Holy Spirit directs believers to where their assignment is and where it is not. (Acts 16:6-7)
- The Holy Spirit reminds believers that assignments come with attacks. (Acts 20:23)
- The Holy Spirit appoints overseers to care for the church of God. (Acts 20:28)
- The Holy Spirit pours out God's love into our hearts. (Romans 5:5)
- The Holy Spirit sets believers free from the law of sin and death and enables them to follow God's laws. (Romans 8:2-6)
- The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness and intercedes on our behalf. (Romans 8:26-27)
- The Holy Spirit enables us to live in righteousness, peace, and joy. (Romans 14:17-18)
- The Holy Spirit fills us with hope and joy as we trust in God. (Romans 15:13)
- The Holy Spirit sanctifies us and makes our ministry acceptable to God. (Romans 15:16)
- The Holy Spirit reveals God's wisdom and searches all things. (1 Corinthians 2:10-11)
- The Holy Spirit enables believers to understand and receive what God has freely given them. (1 Corinthians 2:12)
- The Holy Spirit gives understanding to the words of God. (1 Corinthians 2:14)
- The Holy Spirit lives on the inside of believers in Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 3:16)
- The Holy Spirit sanctifies believers and washes them from their sin. (1 Corinthians 6:11)
- The Holy Spirit enables believers to confess Jesus as Lord. (1 Corinthians 12:3)
- The Holy Spirit gives spiritual gifts to believers. (1 Corinthians 12: 4-11)
- The Holy Spirit seals believers and guarantees their inheritance. (2 Corinthians 1:21-22)
- The Holy Spirit writes God's law on believers' hearts and enables them to minister. (2 Corinthians 3:3)
- The Holy Spirit brings freedom and transforms believers into the likeness of Christ. (2 Corinthians 3:17-18)
- The Holy Spirit enables believers to serve God in righteousness. (2 Corinthians 6:6)
- The Holy Spirit brings believers into fellowship with God and one another. (2 Corinthians 13:14)

Holy SPIRIT

- The Holy Spirit enables believers to receive God's promised blessings through faith. (Galatians 3:14)
- The Holy Spirit enables believers to cry out, "Abba, Father!" (Galatians 4:6)
- The Holy Spirit enables believers to wait for the righteousness they hope for. (Galatians 5:5)
- The Holy Spirit enables believers to live by the Spirit and not the desires of the flesh. (Galatians 5:16-18)
- The Holy Spirit produces fruit in the lives of believers: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23)
- The Holy Spirit gives believers the Spirit of wisdom and revelation to know God better. (Ephesians 1:17-18)
- The Holy Spirit unites believers in the bond of peace as they are called to one hope. (Ephesians 4:3-4)
- The Holy Spirit uses the prayers of others to help believers and make Jesus Christ known. (Philippians 1:19)
- The Holy Spirit encourages believers, comforts them, and shares with them the love of Christ. (Philippians 2:1-2)
- The Holy Spirit enables believers to worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and put no confidence in the flesh. (Philippians 3:3)
- The Holy Spirit empowers the Gospel message with conviction and power. (1 Thessalonians 1:5)
- The Holy Spirit sanctifies believers and helps them to believe in the truth. (2 Thessalonians 2:13)
- The Holy Spirit gives believers power, love, and self-discipline. (2 Timothy 1:7)
- The Holy Spirit inspires all Scripture and equips believers for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16)
- The Holy Spirit speaks through Scripture, calling believers to heed God's voice and enter His rest. (Hebrews 3:7-11)
- The Holy Spirit raised Jesus from the dead. (1 Peter 3:18)
- The Holy Spirit enables believers to rejoice and be blessed even when insulted for the name of Christ. (1 Peter 4:14)
- The Holy Spirit carried along the prophets as they spoke from God. (2 Peter 1:21)
- The Holy Spirit confirms that God lives in believers and they in God. (1 John 3:24)
- The Holy Spirit enables believers to acknowledge that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh. (1 John 4:2)
- The Holy Spirit testifies that Jesus is the Son of God. (1 John 5:6)
- The Holy Spirit enables believers to build themselves up in their most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit. (Jude 1:20)
- The Holy Spirit enables believers to hear what the Spirit says to the churches. (Revelation 2:7)
- The Holy Spirit empowers believers to overcome the second death. (Revelation 2:11)

Holy SPIRIT

- The Holy Spirit enables believers to do what is right and avoid the evil works of false prophets. (Revelation 2:29)
- The Holy Spirit breathes life into the two witnesses, enabling them to stand up, causing great fear among those who see them. (Revelation 11:11)
- The Holy Spirit enables believers to rest from their labors, and their deeds follow them. (Revelation 14:13)
- The Holy Spirit calls out to all who are thirsty to come and drink the water of life. (Revelation 22:17)
- The Holy Spirit speaks through the Scriptures, warning against adding or taking away from the word of God. (Revelation 22:18-19)

Will you Receive the Holy Spirit?
Will you yield to the Holy Spirit?
Will you obey the Holy Spirit?

THE NAMES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Let me tell you the Holy Spirit's names. The Holy Spirit is referred to by many names and titles, revealing different aspects of the Spirit's character and attributes.

The Spirit is referred to as:
The breath of life in Genesis 2:7,
Spirit of God (Genesis 41:38),
Hand of God (2 Chronicles 30:12),
Good Spirit (Nehemiah 9:20),
God's Spirit (Nehemiah 9:30),

Breath of the Almighty (Job 32:8)
Spirit of Judgment and Fire (Isaiah 4:4),
Spirit of Counsel and Power and Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding and Spirit of Knowledge and Fear of the Lord (Isaiah 11:2),
Spirit of Justice (Isaiah 28:6),
Spirit From On High (Isaiah 32:15),
Breath of the Lord (Isaiah 40:7),
Mind of the Lord (Isaiah 40:13),
Water on Thirsty Land (Isaiah 44:3),
Spirit of the Sovereign Lord (Isaiah 61:1),
Spirit Who Gives Rest (Isaiah 63:14),
Spirit of the Lord (Micah 2:7),
Eyes of the Lord (Zechariah 4:10),
Spirit of Grace and Supplication (Zechariah 12:10),
Spirit of the Father (Matthew 10:20),
The Spirit (Matthew 12:31),
Power of the Most High (Luke 1:35),
Power of the Lord (Luke 5:17),
Finger of God (Luke 11:20),
Streams of Living Water (John 7:38),
Counselor (John 14:16),
Spirit of Truth (John 14:17),
Spirit Who Goes Out From the Father (John 15:26),
Promised Holy Spirit (Acts 2:33),
Gift (Acts 2:38),
God (Acts 5:3-4),
Spirit of Jesus (Acts 16:7),
Spirit of Holiness (Romans 1:4),
Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:2),
Spirit of Christ (Romans 8:9),

Holy SPIRIT

Spirit of Him Who Raised Jesus from the Dead (Romans 8:11),
Spirit of Sonship (Romans 8:15),
Spirit Who is From God (1 Corinthians 2:12),
Spirit of Our God (1 Corinthians 6:11),
Spirit of the Living God (2 Corinthians 3:3),
Seal (Ephesians 1:13),
Deposit (Ephesians 1:14),
Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation (Ephesians 1:17),
Holy Spirit of God (Ephesians 4:30),
Spirit of Jesus Christ (Philippians 1:19),
Vindicator of Christ (1 Timothy 3:16),
Spirit of Power, Love and Self-Discipline (2 Timothy 1:7),
Eternal Spirit (Hebrews 9:14),
Spirit of Grace (Hebrews 10:29),
Holy Spirit Sent from Heaven (1 Peter 1:12),
Spirit of Glory (1 Peter 4:14),
Seven Spirits of God (Revelation 4:5),
and the Spirit of Prophecy (Revelation 19:10)!

Will you Receive the Holy Spirit?
Will you yield to the Holy Spirit?
Will you obey the Holy Spirit?

ACTS 19:1-2

You see, in Acts 19, these people had not heard of the Holy Spirit.
They were disciples, but they had not heard of the Holy Spirit.

They were disciples, but not disciples of Jesus the Christ.

They were religious, but not spiritual!
They received the teachings of John the Baptist but had not received the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

And I say to you in closing: The word of the Lord and the Spirit of God go hand in hand.
Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and receive the Holy Spirit!

And this belief I speak of is not merely an intellectual nod or mental acceptance, but it is an embodied belief—an allegiance that is lived out in actions and choices! But you do know you cannot truly obey His word apart from His Spirit, which is why if you truly believe in your heart, the Holy Spirit will come alongside you and help you, lead you, and guide you, to walk it like you talk it!

I say to you in closing:

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