

The Doctrine of the Trinity Part 4 – God the Holy Spirit

Review:

God the Father is God – He is one. Trinity is not tri-theism or polytheism (3 gods). Trinitarian theology teaches One God in Three Persons.

Jesus the Son is God – fully God and fully man; affirmation of God making atonement for sin. Jesus is the only way of Salvation.

1. The Holy Spirit mystery

- a. Many think they have the Holy Spirit ‘figured out.’
 - i. Many things are attributed to the Holy Spirit that is foreign to the Scripture.
 - ii. Too often will-meaning Christians debate ‘experiences.’
 1. Experiences can be deceiving. ((It may well be God – it might also be something else and not God!))
 2. Experience must be measured by truth.
 - iii. Revealed truth of the Bible is more important than experiences.
- b. The Holy Spirit glorifies Christ alone!
 - i. The problem inherent with teaching about the Holy Spirit is that the Holy Spirit never teaches about himself.
 - ii. ANYTHING ATTRIBUTED TO THE HOLY SPIRIT THAT GLORIFIES THE HOLY SPIRIT IS NOT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

2. Who is the Holy Spirit?

- a. The Holy Spirit is a person.
 - i. He is not a power, an influence, a principle, or a feeling
 - ii. He has the qualities of personhood attributed to Him in the same manner as the Father and the Son – whatever can be said of the Father can be said of the Holy Spirit.
 1. Ephesians 4:30 Paul tells us not to ‘grieve’ the Holy Spirit
 - a. You cannot grieve an influence or power
 2. Acts 5 – Ananias and Sapphira are accused of “lying to the Holy Spirit”
 - a. Vs. 4 says lying to the Holy Spirit is lying to God
 - iii. Holy Spirit is referred to as “He” – not IT
 1. Jesus established personality of “He.”
- b. The Holy Spirit is third person of the Trinity; present throughout the Bible
 - i. At creation - Genesis 1:2 “the Spirit moved over the face of the deep”
 - ii. Psalm 51:11 – Do not take your Holy Spirit from me
 - iii. Psalm 139:7-8
 - iv. Isaiah 68:10-11
 - v. Matthew 3:13-17 & Mark 1:9-11 At Jesus’ baptism – descending as a dove while the Father spoke audibly and the Son was being baptized.
 - vi. Matthew 28 – In the baptismal formula – giving equality with the Father and the Son
 - vii. In Apostolic teachings
 1. 1 Corinthians 13:14 – Corinthian benediction of equality of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
 2. 1 Corinthians 2:10-11 – Holy Spirit searches all things; knows all things
 3. Acts 15:28 – The Holy Spirit judges motives and actions
 4. John 16:13 – The Holy Spirit hears from the Father and Son and speaks
 5. Acts 13:2 The Holy Spirit speaks; calls apart Paul and Barnabus

- a. Rev. 2:7 He that hath an ear let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches!
 - 6. Romans 8:27 – The Holy Spirit intercedes
 - a. Compare 1 John 2:1 Jesus intercedes for us to the Father
- 3. What is the Ministry of the Holy Spirit?
 - a. Jesus himself gives us the most complete/direct job description in Scripture in John 14,15,16
 - i. 14:16 – Holy Spirit is eternal counselor/comforter
 - ii. 14:26 – Teacher
 - iii. 15:26 – He will testify of Jesus
 - iv. 16:8 – He convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment
 - 1. Sin- because the world does not believe
 - 2. Righteousness – because Jesus goes to the Father and we see him no more
 - 3. Judgment – because the prince of this world is judged
 - v. 16:13 – He will guide into all truth – He is the Spirit of Truth
 - 1. He will not speak on His own
 - vi. 16:14 – He will glorify Christ!
- 4. Have you received the Holy Spirit?
 - a. Acts 19:1 – 7 Have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed? Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?
 - i. This central issue is “Do you have the Holy Spirit?”
 - ii. Jesus went away and sent the Holy Spirit to us – fulfilling the prophecy begun in Christ – God with us!
 - 1. God is with us in the person of the Holy Spirit today.