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# Knowing Jesus: The Holy Spirit



Depiction of the Christian Holy Spirit as a dove, by Gian Lorenzo Bernini, in the apse of Saint Peter's Basilica.

**I**N YOUR CONSTANTLY OVER-DEMANDING LIFE in the Capitol, I am sure there are times when you think and feel dry and depleted. It is during these times of drought that Satan tempts us in our weakest areas and we are apt to sin.

May I encourage you to find your strength in God and His Word today and all throughout this week. There is but one remedy for a parched spirit and that is to drink from the well of the Word and to find your solace in Him. In that the Capitol culture creates much autonomy; if you need a confidant and/or some encouragement feel free to reach out to me. I too struggle just like you at times and hopefully I can relate to your needs.

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President & Founder

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## Weekly Bible Study During Session

SENATE: Dirkson Basement: 8:00 AM Tuesdays. *Hot Breakfast Served.*

CONGRESS: Capitol H324: 5:30 PM Monday or Tuesday Evenings, *Before First Votes Back.*





Francis Scott Key

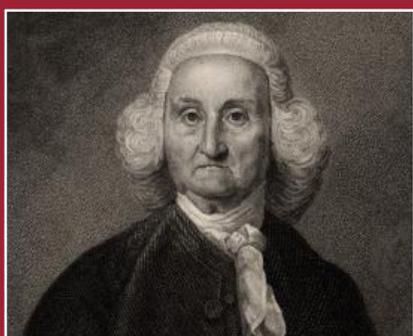


*"[M]ay I always hear that you are following the guidance of that blessed Spirit that will lead you into all truth, leaning on that Almighty arm that has been extended to deliver you, trusting only in the only Savior, and going on in your way to Him rejoicing."*

— Francis Scott Key, U. S. Attorney for the District of Columbia; Author of the Star Spangled Banner.

Hugh A. Garland, *The Life of John Randolph of Roanoke* (New York: D. Appleton & Company, 1853), Vol. II, p. 104, from Francis Scott Key to John Randolph.

Jonathan Trumbull



*"He called on the State of Connecticut to pray that . . .*

*God would graciously pour out His Spirit upon us and make the blessed Gospel in His hand effectual to a thorough reformation and general revival of the holy and peaceful religion of Jesus Christ."*

— Jonathan Trumbull, Judge; Legislator; Governor of Connecticut; Confidant of George Washington, who called him 'Brother Jonathan.'

Jonathan Trumbull, Governor of Connecticut, *A Proclamation for a Day of Public Thanksgiving*, October 12, 1770.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The Holy Spirit is God. The Bible identifies Him as one of three Persons existing as one God, that is, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. In this lesson, we will study who the Holy Spirit is and His presence and ministry in the believer's life.

## II. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A PERSON

### A. RECOGNIZED AS A PERSON

Personal pronouns like "He" or "Him" are used to refer to the Holy Spirit rather than "it." List the number of times "He" or "Him" is used in John 14:17 to refer to the Holy Spirit:

*That is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.*

### B. ATTRIBUTES OF PERSONALITY

1. **Intellect.** He possesses the ability to know and understand reality.

a. Romans 8:27:

*And He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.*

The Holy Spirit has a

b. 1 Corinthians 2:10:

*For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.*

The Holy Spirit searches

c. 1 Corinthians 2:11:

*For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God.*

The Holy Spirit knows

2. **Emotion.** He possesses the ability to experience emotion. Record the emotion attributed to the Holy Spirit in Ephesians 4:30:

*Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom*

*you were sealed for the day of redemption.*

3. **Volition.** He possesses the ability to determine or act decisively. List the decision or judgment in which the Holy Spirit demonstrates His attribute of volition:

a. 1 Corinthians 12:7,11:

*But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.*

b. Acts 13:2:

*While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."*

c. Acts 15:28-29:

*For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay upon you no greater burden than these essentials: that you abstain from things sacrificed to idols and from blood and from things strangled and from fornication; if you keep yourselves free from such things, you will do well. Farewell.*

## III. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

### A. ATTRIBUTES

#### The Holy Spirit: Attributes of Deity

Omniscient	All-Knowing Isaiah 40:13-14
Omnipresent	Present Everywhere Psalm 139:7
Eternal	Without Beginning or End Hebrews 9:14
Truth	Veracity; Integrity 1John 5:7 John 16:13

### B. STATEMENTS OF DEITY

Write the key statement that shows that the Holy Spirit is God (2Corinthians 3:17):

*Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit*



of the Lord is, there is liberty.

According to Acts 5:3-4, lying to the Holy Spirit is the same thing as lying to  
 But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back some of the price of the land? While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.”

#### IV. THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

A. According to Psalm 104:30, the Holy Spirit is active in  
*You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; And You renew the face of the ground.*

B. 2Peter 1:20-21 tells us that the Holy Spirit was also active in  
*But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.*

#### The Holy Spirit Bears Witness of Christ

- Attests that Jesus is the Christ John 15:26
- Will disclose or reveal Christ John 16:14
- Will not speak of Himself John 16:13

#### V. THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN SALVATION

One of the most important areas of the Spirit’s work is with respect to God’s plan of salvation.

A. What special work does the Holy Spirit do (John 16:7-8)?

*But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.*

B. By whom are sinners born into God’s kingdom (John 3:5-8)?

*Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into 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 be amazed that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”*

C. What work does the Spirit do when a person is saved?

1. Titus 3:5-6:

*He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior*

2. 1Corinthians 12:13:

*For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.*

**The baptism by the Spirit occurs only once—  
 At the time of salvation.**

(Cf. Romans 8:9; Acts 11:17)

D. How does the Holy Spirit guarantee a believer’s salvation (Ephesians 1:13-14)?

*In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God’s own possession, to the praise of His glory.*

An explanation about the sealing of the Holy Spirit is in order. A seal was an ancient device, usually a signet ring or cylinder seal engraved with the owner’s name or with a particular design, used to seal goods, demonstrate ownership, attest to a document’s authenticity, or to physically impress upon something an early form of a trademark. The seal indicated ownership and security. Here in Ephesians it represents the guarantee of future blessings. The presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives is God’s promise of our inheritance in the future! What a wonderful assurance.

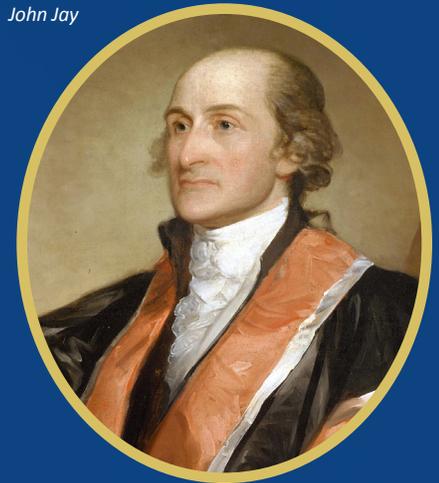
#### VERSE OF THE WEEK

### JOHN 14:16

**And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever.**

*Thankful for The Holy Spirit’s presence in our lives!*

John Jay



*“Condescend, merciful Father! to grant as far as proper these imperfect petitions, to accept these inadequate thanksgivings, and to pardon whatever of sin hath mingled in them for the sake of Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord and Savior; unto Whom, with Thee, and the blessed Spirit, ever one God, be rendered all honor and glory, now and forever.”*

— John Jay, President of Congress; Diplomat; Author of the Federalist Papers; Original Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court; Governor of New York.

William Jay, *The Life of John Jay* (New York: J & J Harper, 1833), Vol. I p. 518, Appendix V, from a prayer found among Mr. Jay’s papers and in his handwriting.



**CAPITOL MINISTRIES** is a ministry organization that provides Bible studies, evangelism and discipleship to political leaders. Capitol Ministries was founded in 1996 and has started ministries in over 37 US State Capitols. [cm](http://www.capmin.org)

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# Knowing Jesus: The Holy Spirit

## VI. THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE BELIEVER'S LIFE

A. What is the relationship between the Holy Spirit and the believer (Romans 8:9)?

*However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.*

B. Is it possible to be a Christian and not be indwelt by the Holy Spirit?

C. What is another ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer (1Corinthians 2:12-13)?

*Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.*

D. What exhortation is given to all believers in regard to the Spirit?

1. Ephesians 4:30:  
*Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*

2. 1Thessalonians 5:19:  
*Do not quench the Spirit.*

3. Ephesians 5:18:  
*And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit.*

E. In Colossians 3:16 the same attributes as are listed in Ephesians 5:18 appear. What however is the command in this passage?

*Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*

Accordingly, is being filled with the Spirit and letting the Word of Christ dwell in you richly the same concept?

F. How does a Christian keep from sinning (Galatians 5:16)?

*But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.*

G. When a believer is filled with the Holy Spirit, he will exhibit the fruit of the Spirit. Examine Galatians 5:22-23 and list these qualities below:

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_

Are you exhibiting those qualities in your own life?

## V. APPLICATION

Read 1Corinthians 6:19-20:

*Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.*

A. What significance does that have for you?

B. What do you need to do to glorify God in your body?

May God bless your study of His Word this week. Develop the habit; it is the most important one in all of life. —rkd

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