



The Holy Spirit our Comforter

Introduction

In May this year, we were in Longwe and we had an encounter with the Holy Spirit. I do not know who was there at the meeting? Please show your hands? Amen!

Who believes that we had an encounter with the Holy Spirit?

So today I want to start teaching you about the Holy Spirit because He is here right now. In fact, if you are born again and gave your life to Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit has been given to you as your helper, guide and comforter.

Who is the Holy Spirit

As a recap, the Holy Spirit is God, He is part of the God head, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit has always existed and is found in many scriptures where He is directly references as the Spirit, with a capital S.

So an example would be Genesis 1:1-2, *"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters."*

Do you see the verse 3, *"...the Spirit of God was hovering of the waters."* right there is the Holy Spirit who is the Spirit of God!

Today I am going to lead you in a message where we will discover:

- Who the Holy Spirits is?
- Why is the Holy Spirit here on earth and not in Heaven with God the Father and God the Son?
- What He does?
- What the Holy enables you and I to do?

In April / May on my next visit I will do three sessions on:

- The Baptism of the Holy Spirit
- The Gifts of the Spirit
- The Fruit of the Spirit

Today I will touch on these three areas but when I come again I will do a detailed message on these three topics.

Who the Holy Spirit is?

As we discussed earlier the Holy Spirit, is part of the Godhead. He is God, He is a vital part in our Spiritual walk. He is always guiding and helping us to live for God. The Bible says He is our comforter and our helper.

As God He has immense power and when the Holy Spirit comes to a place, that whole place is change by His presence. Also according to the Bible we can sin against the Holy Spirit and when we do there is not forgiveness of sin, in other words you will not go to heaven.

So we need to respect the Holy Spirit and honour Him in our lives. Halelujah, Amen! Let's just



thank God for the Holy Spirit, He sent to earth to help us?

Why is the Holy Spirit on earth?

The first question we need to ask is, if the Holy Spirit is God and He is with each of us, why is the Holy Spirit on earth and not in Heaven? If the Holy Spirit is God, and He is – why is He not living in the third heaven with God?

The answer is very simple but I want you to read it with your own eyes. So let's turn to **John 16:5-15**, this is Jesus speaking.

"⁵ but now I am going to him who sent me. None of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶ Rather, you are filled with grief because I have said these things. ⁷ But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ about sin, because people do not believe in me; ¹⁰ about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; ¹¹ and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.¹² "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. ¹³ But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. ¹⁵ All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you."

So here we see Jesus Christ at the end of His ministry on earth just before He will be crucified. Jesus talking to His disciples saying that he must go back to His Father in Heaven, to make place for the Holy Spirit to come to earth.

Jesus says that when He goes back to heaven, He personally will send us a comforter to be with us.

So the answer to why the Holy Spirit is here on earth is that Jesus Christ sent Him to us to help us in every area of our Christian walk and our life. Will you let Him help you?

What He does?

So now that we know why the Holy Spirit is on earth, what does the Holy Spirit do here on earth? Again some of the things that He does are also listed in our first verse.

1. Verse 8 says, *"When He comes, He will prove the world to be wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement."*

So the first thing the holy Spirit does is prove that what we think is important to God and what we think is Holy living and right stand with God are incorrect.

Verse 9 says, *"about sin, because people do not believe in me."*

Ask any person in the street if they are going to heaven and they will honestly answer you, "Yes I am going to heaven because I am a good person. I do not steal, murder or tell lies. I go to church and read my Bible!"

The Holy Spirit comes and He convicts you of your sin. No matter how right you think you



are, they Holy Spirit pull's away the covers and exposes your sins to yourself. Usually it will be a silent voice in your head that says, "you know Martin, the way you treated that person was not good and you need to make right", or "Martin, when you die are you going to heaven?"

Small short significant questions that flash into your mind. You might say, "hey I am a Christian", but deep down something says, no you're not! You might say "I am going to heaven" but deep down something says, "hey I am not sure"

That is the Holy Spirit convicting you of sin, saying hey you are not ready, hey put up your hand because you need Jesus.

2. The second thing He does is convicts you about righteousness, righteousness mean's right standing with God. You might say you are right with God but deep down something is saying, "Hey Martin! Come on, come to Jesus"

Sometimes you might even wonder if you are really saved. Your are challenged about your lifestyle and you see that you are not where you should be. Something saying inside your heart. "Hey man, Martin you are not right with God, come make it right now!"/ "Jesus really is the Son of God, why don't you server Him"

3. "About judgement, because the prince of this world stands condemned", you feel, hey I am not right and I am going to be judge, what am I going to do? What am I going to say?
4. The Holy Spirit is truth. God cannot lie! And the Holy Spirit will guide you in all truth.

The Holy Spirit is such a gentleman that He will not push you in making any decision and He will only speak what He hears God say

5. The Holy Spirit will always glorify the Father in all He does. He does nothing or Himself but everything for God's glory.
6. He is our mediator between us and God. He hears what God says and makes it know to you. This includes the scriptures, He was there and inspired the authors of the Bible to write what they did and He knows the Word, through and through.
7. The Holy Spirit takes our prayers and makes then acceptable to God. We do not know how to pray but the Holy Spirit takes our prayers and brings the before God in an acceptable way that is pleasing to God and beneficial to us.
8. He is our friend and confidant.
9. He is our help in everything we do.
10. He is our deposit or down payment that we have eternal life

a. 2 Corinthians 1:21-22

²¹ Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, ²² set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.



b. 2 Corinthians 5:5

⁵ Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

c. Ephesians 1:13-14

¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

What the Holy enables you and I to do?

In my opening scripture I gave you a few things that the Holy Spirit enables you to do. There are many more things that the Holy Spirit does for us or enables us to do and so I describe a few.

Being a Witness for Jesus Christ

In **Acts 1:17-9**, we find the Last Words Jesus spoke to His followers on the mount of Olives.

⁷ He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

One of the first things that the Holy Spirit will do for you when you receive Him is to a witness for Jesus Christ.

Many people tell me pastor I am not an evangelist, I cannot tell people about Jesus Christ because I am too shy. That is a lie from Satan – the Holy Spirit, according to Jesus' Words, when you receive the power of the Holy Spirit you will receive power to become His witnesses to the world, firstly at home or your local settings, then in nearby countries and eventually the world.

Look at the disciples, one moment they were scared and hiding, afraid to even be called a follower of Jesus. Peter even gave up and went back to work as a fisherman.

Then Jesus arises from the dead and calls His disciples back to the ministry. Then Jesus ascends into heaven and before He goes He tells them to go to Jerusalem a wait for the Holy Spirit.

They do this but note they are not having services and preach the Gospel, they are not boldly preaching!

Then 10 days later the Holy Spirit falls on them in the upper room and immediately Peter is bold and preaches to a large crowd in Jerusalem and 3000 people get saved!

What changed? They received the Holy Spirit! Now you see them going around preach everywhere. Raising the dead, healing the sick, preaching and saving the lost. They surely receive a large burst of power that lasted right up to their individual deaths!

Did you know with the exception of John the beloved, all 11 disciples died an unnatural death?

- Peter was crucified. Upside down because he did not want dishonour Jesus by being crucified as He was.



- James was beheaded.
- Philip was crucified on a cross shaped like an X

Conclusion

When anyone is baptised in the Holy Spirit they will receive power. The Bible talks of two baptisms. A baptism in water and a baptism of the Spirit!

Who has been baptised in water? Who has been baptised in the Spirit? It is only when you receive the baptism of the Spirit that you are infused with power from on high and receive the power to live the Christian life and live in the supernatural.

In closing I want to remind you that, according to scripture, there are three things that testify that Jesus Christ is the Lord. They are the Water – Baptism, the Blood – the cross of Calvary and the Spirit – the Holy Spirit.

Please turn in your Bibles to **1 John 5:4-12**

⁴ for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. ⁵ Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. ⁶ This is the one who came by water and blood – Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷ For there are three that testify: ⁸ the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. ⁹ We accept human testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. ¹⁰ Whoever believes in the Son of God accepts this testimony. Whoever does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because they have not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. ¹¹ And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Salvation

I want to challenge everyone here today, have you been born of God? Have you accepted the free gift that God gave you, which is eternal life? This passage ends very clearly, if you have the Son, you have eternal life. If do not you will not go to heaven. No matter how good you are, no matter how much you give or sacrifice, no nothing can buy your Salvation, only Jesus Christ could and He done it all for you, will you accept Him and this free gift.

If that is you? You need Jesus in your life. You want to take a step of faith and make Jesus Christ your Lord and Saviour. Please raise your hand and I will lead you in a prayer of commitment to Jesus Christ.

Pray

Next you heard me preach about the Holy Spirit and a mentioned a little about the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, is the anyone here who would like to be empowered by the Holy Spirit? Would you like to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?

Come forward and we will pray together for you to be baptised in the Holy Spirit!

Pray

