

The Holy Spirit

- Introduction
- The Spirit in salvation history
- The identity of the Holy Spirit
- The Holy Spirit and the Trinity
- Development of the doctrine in the church
- The work of the Holy Spirit

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Introduction

- J. I. Packer: pneumatology is “the Cinderella of doctrines.”
- The Spirit is critical to all the doctrines we’ll discuss.
- Why is the Spirit more difficult to talk about than the Son is?
- Most significant teaching: John 14-17; Rom. 8; 1 Cor. 12-14; Gal. 5.

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The Spirit in Salvation History

- Pneumatology is a NT doctrine.
- See progressive revelation at work.
 - Father seen clearly in OT.
 - Son revealed clearly in NT.
 - Spirit hinted at in OT, revealed more clearly in NT after Pentecost.
 - Doctrine of Spirit worked out fully after NT.

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The Spirit in Salvation History

- What would we know about the Spirit if we only had the OT?

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The Spirit in Salvation History

- Prophets promised that the Spirit would someday come in a special way (Joel 2).
- “This unsatisfying experience [of the Spirit] led God’s Old Testament people to direct their attention to the future” (Grenz).
- Intertestamental period: Spirit falls silent.
- NT - *pneuma* (Gk: wind, breath, s/Spirit).

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The Spirit in Salvation History

- What is the Spirit’s role in the life of Jesus?

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The Spirit in Salvation History

- What happens at Pentecost?

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Identity of the Holy Spirit

- The Spirit is personal.
 - Referred to by personal pronouns.
 - Called another *parakletos* like Jesus.
 - The Spirit has intellect.
 - The Spirit has emotions.
 - The Spirit has will.
 - The Spirit assures us that God is our Father.
 - The Spirit mediates God's personal presence in us.

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Identity of the Holy Spirit

- The Spirit is divine.
 - Spoken of in parallel with God.
 - Included in Trinitarian formulas.
 - Called eternal.
 - Omniscient.
 - Agent in creation, regeneration, resurrection.
 - Can be sinned against.
 - Can be blasphemed.

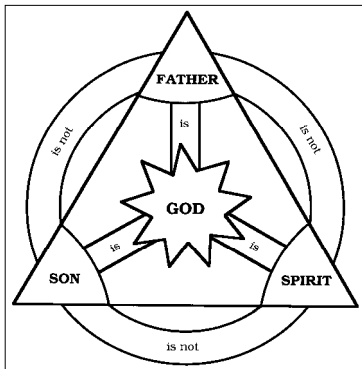
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Identity of the Holy Spirit

- The Spirit proceeds from the Father.
- The Spirit is closely identified with the Father and (especially) with the exalted Christ.
- The Spirit is distinguished from the Father and the Son.

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Ancient diagram of the Trinity



Charts of Christian Theology and Doctrine, H. Wayne House

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Identity of the Holy Spirit

- What difference would it make in counseling to know who the Holy Spirit is?

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The Spirit and the Trinity

- Immanent or essential or eternal Trinity - Trinity in its internal relations, independent of creation.
- Economic or historical Trinity - Trinity as its persons have interacted with creation.

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The Spirit and the Trinity

- Procession of the Spirit - tries to describe Spirit's relations in immanent Trinity.
 - Father and Son - generation.
 - Father and Spirit - procession (John 15:26).
 - Internal dynamic in which Son and Spirit find their origin in Father (not in temporal sense).
 - Not subordination or difference in essence.
 - Describing a mystery.

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The Spirit and the Trinity

- Spirit in immanent Trinity is bond of love between the Father and Son (Grenz).
 - Influenced by Augustine.
 - Exegetical basis in 1 John and Romans 5.
 - Love requires a Lover (Father), a Beloved (Son), and the love they share (Spirit).
 - Because relationship is eternal, so is Spirit.
 - Because relationship is personal, so is Spirit.
- What do you think of this approach?

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The Spirit and the Trinity

- Spirit in economic Trinity is completer.
 - Father is originator, Son is mediator, Spirit is completer.
 - “From” the Father, “through” the Son, “by” the Spirit.
- God’s agent in creation and re-creation.
- The Spirit brings fullness of life.
- The Spirit brings us to share in the love within the triune God.

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Work of the Holy Spirit

- The Spirit applies salvation to the individual.
- The Spirit enables the Christian life.
- The Spirit constitutes the church.
- The Spirit is bringing God’s plan of salvation to completion.

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Work of the Holy Spirit

- How does the work of the Spirit relate to counseling?

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Development of the Doctrine

- What can you tell about the early development of the doctrine of the Holy Spirit?

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Development of the Doctrine

- Controversies over the Spirit.
 - Theology lagged behind devotional practice.
 - Tertullian's formula for the Trinity.
 - Montanism - charismatic movement, prophecy and apocalyptic expectations.
 - Arians - Spirit is lesser creature than Son.
 - Macedonians - Arian view of the Spirit.
 - Athanasius argued orthodox view of Spirit.

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Development of the Doctrine

- Reformation contributions
 - Radical groups claimed inspiration of Spirit.
 - Luther and Calvin kept Spirit together with Scripture and church (e.g., inner witness).
 - Anabaptists: Inner Word + Outer Word.
- Reactions to Protestant Scholasticism.
 - Quakers (Friends) - Spirit as Inner Light.
 - Pietists - devotional life, holiness.
 - Wesley - entire sanctification (second blessing).

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Development of the Doctrine

- 19th century
 - Keswick movement (Higher Life) - second blessing (full surrender, consecration).
 - Pentecostal movement (baptism in the Spirit) - first wave.
 - Holiness Pentecostals – 3 experiences
 - Non-holiness Pentecostals – 2 experiences
 - Charismatic movement (second wave).
 - Signs and Wonders movement (third wave).
- Your tradition?

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Development of the Doctrine

- “Charismatic gifts debate”
 - All gifts of the Spirit are *charismata*.
 - What are the cessationist and continuationist positions?
 - What arguments do they use?
 - What do you think?

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Betty is a pastor's wife. She is very anxious because she thinks that she may have committed blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. She often has doubts about her faith, and she sometimes gets angry at God. What if she has committed the unforgivable sin? She is afraid to admit her problems to anyone in the church, because she doesn't want to undermine her husband's ministry. When her husband invites people to come to the front of the church for prayer, she often wishes she could come to be prayed for, but she has to be there to pray for others. She doesn't know where she stands with God, and doesn't know how to find out. Even if she's okay today, she might cross the line tomorrow. She could commit blasphemy against the Holy Spirit and not even know it. If she did, she could never be forgiven. What theological framework will you need in order to address her situation?

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Case Study

- What are the theological issues?
- What does Betty need to understand about the Holy Spirit?
- What does Betty need to understand about blasphemy against the Holy Spirit?
- What does Betty need to understand about salvation?

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