

Personality and Divinity of the HOLY SPIRIT

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to prohibit the Spirit doing His work in revealing the will of God to man. However, this could only be stated if the Spirit is a person.

The Spirit can also be despised. “Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?” (Heb. 10:29). This type of insult could only take place against a person, thus the Spirit is a person.

DIVINITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Seeing that the Holy Spirit is a person, we must also give consideration to His nature. Is He God? We will see that the answer to this question is a definitive, Yes!

HE HAS ALL THE TRAITS AND PREROGATIVES OF GOD

God is eternal. Before time existed, there was eternity; after time ceases, there will be eternity. Man comes into existence when he is born into this world. God existed before time began—in eternity. “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel from everlasting, and to everlasting. Amen, and Amen” (Psa. 41:13). The Holy Spirit is also eternal. “How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God...?” (Heb. 9:14).

God is omniscient. This means that God is all-knowing or knows everything. “For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things” (1 John 3:20). The Spirit knows all things, even the deep things of God and is thus able to reveal God’s nature to man (see 1 Cor. 2:10-11).

God is omnipotent. Omnipotent means all-powerful. “Then Job answered the Lord, and said, I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee” (Job 42:1-2). The Holy Spirit is omnipotent.

Paul worked “mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God” (Rom. 15:19).

God, to be God, must also be omnipresent, present in every place. Solomon points out, “The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good” (Pro. 15:3). The Psalmist David declares: “Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?” (Psa. 139:7).

Last, **God is truth.** Jesus prayed to the Father, “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth” (John 17:17; see also 14:6). The Scriptures also attest to the fact that the Spirit is also truth (John 14:17).

Any trait or prerogative which deity (God) possesses, the Holy Spirit possesses, therefore the Holy Spirit is deity (God).

HE DOES THE WORKS OF GOD

The Holy Spirit:

- Was involved in the creation process (Gen. 1:2-3; see also Job 26:13).
- Had a part to play in the revelation of truth (1 Cor. 2:10; 2 Pet. 1:20-21).
- At times God worked by directly overruling natural laws, performing a miracle. At other times He controlled and used natural law to accomplish His purpose. The Holy Spirit was involved in both of these (Heb. 2:4; 1 Cor. 12: 4-11; Psa. 104:30).
- The Spirit has a part in salvation (Eph. 2:8; John 3:5; see also Tit. 3:5).
- Was involved in the resurrection of Christ from the dead (Rom. 8:11). Only God would have the ability to raise someone from the dead, thus the Spirit is God.

His Name Is Used With God

At the baptism of Jesus, the Father speaks from heaven, and the Holy Ghost descends in a bodily shape like a dove (Mat. 3:16-17; Luke 3:22). If the Spirit is not God, divine, then why is He associated with the Father and

Son in this way? The only reasonable answer is that He *is* God.

In Matthew 29:19-20 (ASV) the definite article appears before each of the three — Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This shows that there are three distinct persons and not three manifestations of one person. Not three Gods, but one God with three divine Persons. With the phrase “into the name” we have a relationship into which we are baptized. It would be inconsistent for Jesus to affirm that we are baptized into a relationship with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, if all three do not possess the same nature.

While some falsely teach that the Holy Spirit is simply a force, power, or thing, the Scriptures clearly show that the Spirit is a being with the same nature as the Father and Son. He is God.■

ENDNOTES

¹ THE HOLY SPIRIT’S ACTIVE FORCE, *Should You Believe in the Trinity?*, (Watchtower Bible And Track Society of Pennsylvania, 1989), pp. 20, 23.

² J. F. Rutherford, *Reconciliation*, (Brooklyn, 1928), pp. 115,116.

³ Vine, W. E., *Vine’s Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words*, (Grand Rapids, MI: Fleming H. Revell) 1981, [Online] Available: Logos Library System.

⁴ *Enhanced Strong’s Lexicon*, (Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.) 1995, [Online] Available: Logos Library System.

⁵ Henry, Matthew, *Matthew Henry’s Commentary on the Bible*, (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers) 1991, [Online] Available: Logos Library System.

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