

EAST WEST

Awakening to the Holy Spirit

Kurt Nelson



"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us."

-A.W. Tozer

The Triune God

Biblical theologian Wayne Grudem defines the Trinity this way, "God eternally exists as three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and each person is fully God, and there is one God." Grudem concludes:

- God is three persons
- Each person is fully God
- · There is one God

(Grudem: Systematic Theology pages 226, 231)

The Triune God was Present at Jesus' Baptism

"As soon as Jesus [God the Son] was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God [God the Holy Spirit] descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven [God the Father] said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

-Matthew 3:16-17

The Mission of Jesus = The Mission of the Triune God

"Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

-Matthew 28:18-20

The Holy Spirit Brings the Triune God Closer

"May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God [the Father], and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all."

-2 Corinthians 13:14

What do you think about the Holy Spirit?

"It is the highest importance from the standpoint of experience that we know the Holy Spirit as a person."

-R. A. Torrey

The Holy Spirit is a Person

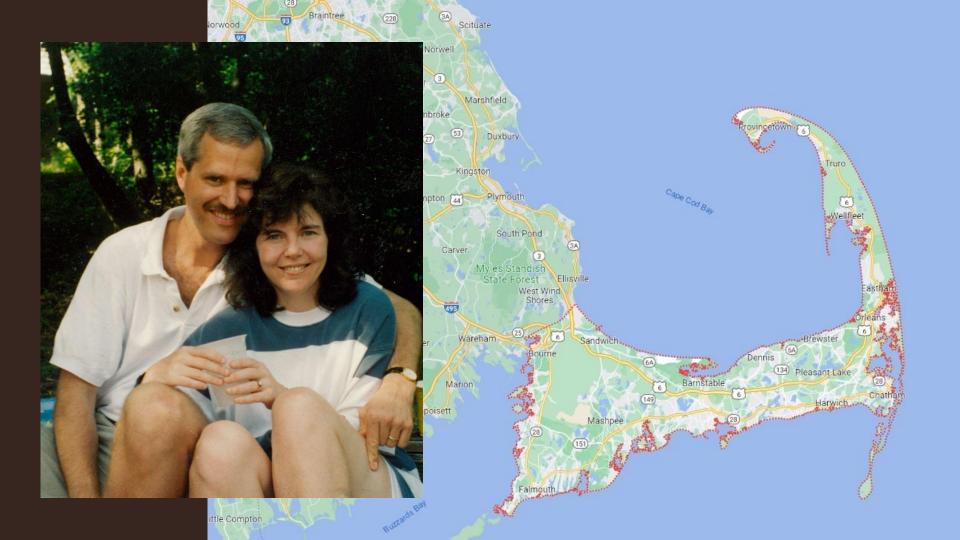
- He walks with us. (Gal 5:25)
- He speaks to us. (1 Cor 2:10, 14; 1 Tim 4:1)
- He lives in us forever. (John 14:16-17)
- He comforts us. (John 14:16, KJV)
- He counsels us. (John 14:26, AMP)
- He teaches us. (John 14:26)
- He reminds us. (John 14:26)
- He leads us. (Gal 5:18)

- He helps us to pray. (Rom 8:26)
 - He reveals truth to us. (1 Cor 2:10)
- He cleanses us. (Titus 3:5, AMP)
- He can be grieved. (Eph 4:30)
- He gives us life. (2 Cor 3:6)
- He carries a sword. (Eph 6:17)
- He gives many great gifts. (Rom 12; 1 Cor 12; Eph 4; 1 Pet 4)
- He fills us with God's love. (Rom 5:5)

The Spirit Speaks in a Gentle Whisper

"The Lord said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

—I Kings 19:11-13



The Holy Spirit is a Person

"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will **testify** about me. 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. He will **glorify** me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. 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."

-John 15:26; 16:12-15

The Spirit Speaks to Obedient Hearts

"The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions. One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called Samuel. Samuel answered, "Here I am." And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down. Again the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

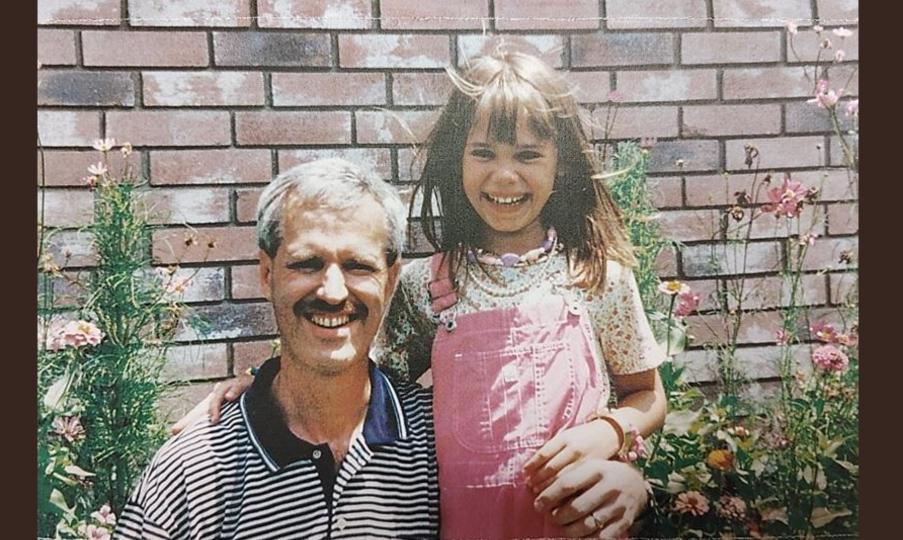
The Spirit Speaks to Obedient Hearts

... "My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. A third time the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." So Samuel went and lay down in his place. The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

—I Samuel 3:1-10

The Spirit Speaks to Obedient Hearts

Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him. For a people shall dwell in Zion, in Jerusalem; you shall weep no more. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry. As soon as he hears it, he answers you. And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your Teacher will not hide himself anymore, but your eyes shall see your Teacher. And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.









The Presence of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

- The Spirit of the LORD will come powerfully upon you, and you will prophesy with them; and you will be changed into a different person. —1 Samuel 10:6
- Now the Spirit of the Lord had turned away from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord tormented him. —1 Samuel 16:14, NET
- Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. —Psalm 51:11



Given Selectively and Temporarily

The Presence of the Holy Spirit in the New Testament

- And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. —John 14:16-17
- For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. —1 Corinthians 12:13



Given Universally and Permanently

The Presence of the Holy Spirit

But I am telling you the truth: **it is better** for you that I go away, because if I do not go, the Helper will not come to you. But if I do go away, then I will send him to you.

—John 16:7, GNT

Awakening to the Power of the Holy Spirit

"Trying to do the Lord's work in your own strength is the most confusing, exhausting, and tedious of all work. But when you are filled with the Holy Spirit, then the ministry of Jesus just flows out of you."

-Corrie Ten Boom



Awakening to the Power of the Holy Spirit

"Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father."

—John 14:12

Awakening to the Fruits of the Holy Spirit

One of the ways God fills us with His presence and power through the Holy Spirit is by giving us the fruit of the Spirit, which can be found in Galatians 5:23-24:

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Patience
- Kindness

- Goodness
- Faithfulness
- Gentleness
- · Self-control

The Fruit of the Holy Spirit as Love

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.

-1 Corinthians 13:4-8

The Fruit of the Holy Spirit as Love

- Love
- Joy is love rejoicing
- Peace is love at rest
- Patience is love waiting
- Kindness is love interacting
- Goodness is love initiating
- Faithfulness is love keeping its word
- Gentleness is love empathizing
- Self-control is love resisting temptation

-Michael Timmis

Awakening to the Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Grace Gifts

"Charis" – grace "Mata" – gifts "Charismata" – grace gifts

"But to each one of us **grace** was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it says, 'WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH, HE LED CAPTIVE THE CAPTIVES, AND HE GAVE GIFTS TO PEOPLE...' And He gave some as apostles, some as prophets, some as evangelists, some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the building up of the body of Christ; until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ."

Awakening to the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit also empowers us with supernatural gifts. The gifts listed below can be found in Romans 12:6-8, Ephesians 4:11-13, and 1 Corinthians 12:1-31:

- Administration
- Apostleship
- Discerning Spirits
- Encouraging/ Exhortation

- Evangelism
- Faith
- Giving
- Healing
- Help/Service
- Interpretation

- Knowledge
- Leadership
- Mercy
- Miracles
- Pastoring
- Prophecy

- Teaching
- Tongues
- Wisdom

Awakening to the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

"The gifts were placed in you, but they were never meant for you! They are meant for the edification and encouragement of your fellow believers!"

-Carol Davis

Awakening to the Purpose of the Holy Spirit

Assurance: To grant believers assurance of their new life in Christ (Rom 8:15-16; 1 John 3:24, 4:13)

Sanctification: To make us grow daily in our likeness to Jesus (*Rom 8:13, 15:16; Gal 5:22-23; 1 Pet 1:2; 2 Thess 2:13*)

Intercession: To pray on behalf of the spiritual welfare of God's people (*Rom 8:26-27*)

Teaching: To instruct believers in God's Word and in His ways (John 14:26, 16:13; Luke 12:12)

Guidance: To direct us when we need specific direction and wisdom in life and ministry (Acts 15:28, 16:6-7; Rom 8:4, 14; Gal 5:16-18)

Unity: To create and maintain the unity of God's people, the Church (*Eph 4:3, Phil 2:1-2, 1 Cor 12:13*)

Empowerment: To manifest God's supernatural life in and through His people as they serve Him (1 Cor 12:7-11; Eph 6:17)

Witness: To empower and make effective our bold witness for the gospel (Acts 1:8)

Salvation: Through the hearing of the gospel, to regenerate the spiritually dead to make them alive in Christ (John 3:5-8)

Awakening to the Purpose of the Holy Spirit: Our Total Transformation

The Spirit of the LORD will come powerfully upon you, and you will prophesy with them; and **you will be changed into a different person**. Once these signs are fulfilled, do whatever your hand finds to do, for God is with you...

As Saul turned to leave Samuel, **God changed Saul's heart**, and all these signs were fulfilled that day. When he and his servant arrived at Gibeah, a procession of prophets met him; the Spirit of God came powerfully upon him, and he joined in their prophesying. When all those who had formerly known him saw him prophesying with the prophets, they asked each other, "What is this that has happened to the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?"

—1 Samuel 10:6-7,9-11



The Holy Spirit and You

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

-Matthew 28:18-20

The Holy Spirit and You

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners...

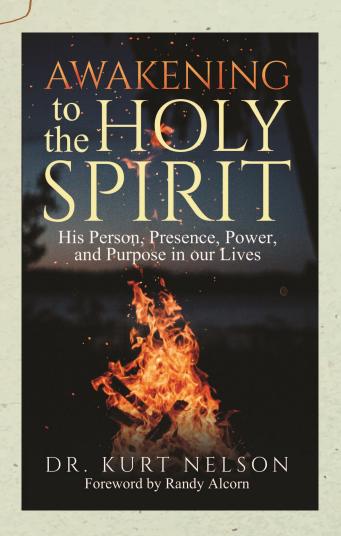
—Isaiah 61:1



The Holy Spirit and Us

"The baptism of the Spirit is God's ultimate purpose for His people. He didn't save us so we could go to Heaven. He saved us so He could fill us so full of Himself we could have intimacy with Him, we could become more like Him, and we could change the world with Him."

-Rob Reimer



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