

## CREED

( Rediscovering the Foundation of Our Faith )

.....I Believe in the Holy Spirit.....

- \* At first glance at the Apostle's Creed, the Holy Spirit seems to get but a passing mention!
- \* Then at closer look we see the work of the Holy Spirit in every aspect of our faith!
- \* The Holy Spirit **was hovering on the surface of the waters**.....
- \* Jesus was **conceived by the Holy Spirit**.....
- \* Jesus was **raised from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit**....
- \* The life of the Holy Spirit **breaths life into our bodily resurrection**...
- \* So, we see the active work of the Holy Spirit after all!!

I. The active work of the Holy Spirit in our live **must not** be overlooked!!

A. He is the **convicting force** that reveals our "missing the mark"!

John 16:7-8

**7** But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you. **8** And when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment

1. Conviction may **not be comfortable** but it is very much **a gift!**
2. Without this **uncomfortable feeling** we would continue in the **sin that brings forth death!**
3. The Holy Spirit constantly directs us toward **hitting the mark** of God's path of life!

B. The Holy Spirit is **our Helper and Guide!**

John 14:16-17, 26

**16** And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. **17** He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The

world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you.<sup>26</sup> But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you.

1. The Holy Spirit is **our Helper!** What does that mean? It depends on what **you need!**
2. He is **always with us!**
3. The Holy Spirit **leads us into truth!** We all have blind spots and do not have **perfect understanding** of the **things of God!** Why? Because we have **made up our minds** and are not allowing the **Holy Spirit to LEAD US** into truth!
4. What we have been taught, traditions and culture out weigh the truth of God in our lives much of the time!

#### C. The Holy spirit **empowers us!**

Acts 1:8

**8** But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

1. The word “power” is the Greek word “dunamis”.
2. It means: **power, strength and ability!**
3. It seems significant to me that according to verse 7 of Acts 1, it implies we are given this **power, strength and ability.....by the Father's authority!**
4. This is neither something I “work up” nor something that can be “taken away” by the world nor the devil!
5. This is an **act of God's authority!**

#### D. The Holy Spirit is a **guarantee, pledge or down payment** of our salvation and redemption!

## Ephesians 1:14

**14** The Spirit is God's guarantee that he will give us the inheritance he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. He did this so we would praise and glorify him.

1. **Think about it!** If what we experience now with our salvation is only a **down payment**, then how marvelous is this redemption we enjoy!
2. I believe this is the very reason **we should study this salvation** we have received!!
3. **We should never become bored with Jesus!**

E. The Holy Spirit **produces super natural fruit** in our lives!

## Galatians 5:22-23

**22** But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

1. When we think of "being imitators of God" as we are told in scripture, the task seems impossible!
2. When we want to give others **a piece of our minds**, we are that the Lord requires **self control!**
3. When life beats us down, we are reminded of **the joy of the Lord being our strength.**
4. So.....how do we get there? Grunting, straining and effort?
5. No!!! The **Fruit of the Spirit** grows as we are **planted in in the Lord!**

F. The Holy Spirit **establishes the Church!**

## 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

**4** There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. **5** There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. **6** God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.

**7** A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.

1. Let's first establish the fact that **our salvation is something super natural!** Not a change in morality, but literally something **other worldly!!**

## **II Corinthians 5:16-18**

**16** So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view. At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now! **17** This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

**18** And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him.

2. The **gifts of the Spirit** are merely a **super natural enablement** from God to accomplish the purposes of God in ministering to people, being the Church of Jesus Christ in the earth and living out what Jesus said....."The kingdom of God is within"
3. Never forget, your redemption is at its core **supernatural, beyond your abilities, a down payment of heaven!**

## II. The working of Holy Spirit is the Old Testament vs. the New Testament

A. According to the Hebrew word **ruach**, there are maybe 90 references of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament.

1. He came **upon** people with **strength, wisdom and leadership abilities.**
2. God's Spirit was on Samson.
3. Samuel said, "The Lord's Spirit spoke through me".

B. In the New Testament we see the **outpouring** of the Holy Spirit!

1. Multiple times Jesus call Him "**the Promise of the Father**"!
2. The Book of Acts is filled with the **outbreak of the Holy Spirit!**
3. Not all moves of the Spirit look the same!!!!
4. Sometimes its miraculous and other times is looks ordinary!

C. The **work of the Holy Spirit** must not be underestimated in life.

1. We often do not know what to do and how to pray!!

Romans 8:26-27

**26** And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. **27** And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers[] in harmony with God's own will.

2. Have you ever been so frustrated that you didn't have words to express the depths of your frustration? You yell or moan!
3. This is Paul's word's to the Romans.
4. Remember, this was a church who had little or no understanding of the foundational truths of christianity. They were not necessarily all Jewish! They simply didn't know the God of their faith as believers did!
5. Can you imagine the frustration of not knowing **how to live out** your new found relationship with God?
6. What's appropriate and what's not.
7. What is God's will and what is not.

D. Learn to listen to the **voice of the Holy Spirit, let Him comfort, guide and empower you!**

### **A Prayer:**

Holy Spirit, I need You. You were the breath and life of God that created man in God's image and You breath life back into us at our redemption so we can once again live in God's image. Form and shape me into what You want me to be. Lead me into what You want me to do. Empower me, speak to me and through me. Produce Your fruit in me and help me listen to Your voice. Holy Spirit fill me so I can express a true image of Jesus to those around me! In Jesus name, amen!