

# THEOLOGY II: Pneumatology (Part 5) Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

Session 5 - Dr. Jeremy Kimble

## REVIEW

### Nicene Creed in 325 AD:

“We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only-begotten of his Father, of the substance of the Father, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance, with the Father. By whom all things were made, both which be in heaven and in earth. Who for us men and for our salvation came down (from heaven) and was incarnate and was made man. He suffered and the third day he rose again, and ascended into heaven. And he shall come again to judge both the quick and the dead.

**And in the Holy Ghost.”**

### Constantinopolitan Creed in 381 AD

“We believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father by whom all things were made; who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead, whose kingdom has no end.

**“And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.** And we believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.”

- In the time of the **Reformation**, the role of the Spirit in confirming and illuminating Scripture arose as the Reformers challenged the sole right of the church (priests and the Pope) to interpret Scripture in the name of the clarity of Scripture and the Holy Spirit's ministry. Calvin especially linked the Spirit to the Word in **enlightening** and **sanctifying**.

- If we all have the Spirit, do we have to rely on someone else to fully understand the Bible, or because of the Spirit can we understand the Bible ourselves? If that is so, why at times are we so utterly dependent on what a preacher or teacher says to make sense of a passage of Scripture?

## **HISTORICAL ILLUMINATION**

- John Wesley had a role in sparking thought about sanctification in his teaching on Christian **perfectionism**. (Perfection, not sinless perfection, external not internal perfection.) After Wesley, a number of churches (e.g. Charles Finney - Father of Modern Revivalism 1792-1875) developed this idea into a full blown doctrine of sanctification as a **second blessing**, distinct from salvation, given not gradually, but in one **overwhelming** experience of sanctification.

*\*John Wesley - Leader of revival movement in England - Methodism. 1735 sailed to the New World from England, pastor to British colonists... founded the independent Methodist Church, Church of the Nazarene, and the Holiness Movement Churches still active today.*

**Sanctification** - process of becoming more like Christ, ongoing... glorification is when we would have sinless perfection. Romans 6 & Galatians 5 - we'll battle sin the rest of our lives. Can we obtain perfection in this life? No. Can we do better than we are? YES!

*I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake.  
I am writing to you, fathers, (a Christian who has obtained perfection) because you know him who is from the beginning.  
I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. 1 John 2:12-13*

- It is important that they (Wesley/Finney) emphasized the importance of one experience that transformed the believer's life, called that experience the baptism of the Spirit, and thus served as the environment in which the **Pentecostal** movement began.
- Four key points regarding the **Pentecostal** movement (2nd blessing that refers to Spiritual Gifts)
  - **Charles Fox Parham**  
*1901 Bible College Professor, teaches the Spirit comes on you and you get the gifts of tongues (Acts 2, Acts 8, Acts 10, other places) Prays & lays hands on student Agnus Osman, and she begins speaking Chinese. Majority of students also received this gift. .*

- **Azusa Street Revival**  
*William Seymour hears & believes this teaching of a 2nd blessing evidenced by speaking in tongues. Takes over a Holiness Church, teaches speaking in tongues as a “sign” of knowing Jesus and having the Spirit of God. In 1906 he’s asked to leave his church and he took his ministry to streets of Southern California and launched Pentecostalism. 200 Pentecostal Denominations.*

Operation World: The Definitive Prayer Guide to Every Nation by Jason Mandryk.

- **The Charismatic Movement**  
*In 1960, Dennis Bennett formed a movement within existing denominations. (Charismatic Baptists, etc)*
- **The Third Wave**  
*1980, Peter Wagner = Power Evangelism. All the “signs & wonders” in Acts must accompany preaching the gospel. Toronto Church, Laughing in the Spirit.*

## **THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION**

- The Spirit is God, and as such He is worthy of our worship, though much of His ministry is focused on **glorifying** the Father and the Son.
- The Spirit is central in both **salvation** and **sanctification**, and as such should not be a **forgotten** person of the Trinity. We are called to bear fruit (Gal 5:22-23) and minister (1 Cor 12) in the **power** of the Spirit.

*Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: **every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God**, and every spirit (demonic spirit) that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. 1 John 4:1-3*

- Test the spirits (1 John 4:1). We are given marks to discern the Spirit’s true work.
  - The Spirit and the **Word**. Since the Spirit is the ultimate author of Scripture, he will never lead or act contrary to an express command of Scripture.
  - The Spirit and **Christ**. The Spirit’s desire is to glorify Christ (John 16:14). Thus, anyone claiming to act under the Spirit’s control but glorifying self is deceived.
  - The Spirit and **Fruit**. When we see the Spirit’s fruit, we have reason to conclude that there the Spirit is at work.
- All of these help us understand God’s will for our lives.

## PRACTICAL APPLICATION

- God dwells within us to **empower** us for **ministry** and **enable** us to live in **righteousness** and not sin. Let's act like It!
- **Walk** in the power of the Spirit. There are three keys to experiencing the power of the Spirit. We must not **quench** or **grieve** the Spirit, meaning we must walk in the Spirit, not the flesh (sin). To those two, I would add simply **faith** (John 7:37-39). We receive the power of the Spirit, not by pleading or begging, or lingering at some altar, but by coming to Christ and trusting Him. We are then to act in faith, believing God is with us and will empower us.

*On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'" Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. John 7:37-39*

- **Pray for revival.**