

Holy Spirit

Figurative indwelling



In the sense of control or influence, both the Father and Son dwell in us. God, the Father, dwells in us (2 Corinthians 6:16; 1 John 4:12-15; 2 John 9). Christ dwells in us (Colossians 1:27; Ephesians 3:17; Galatians 2:20). Do any of these references imply that the Father or Son is personally inside our bodies? We understand these verses to speak of our relationship with Deity, but not that the Persons of Deity are literally inside of us. We may say of a son, "I can see his father in him." We do not mean his father is literally inside of him, but that the influence of his father is evident in his life. **The Holy Spirit dwells in us by means of God's revealed word.** The Bible itself is not the Holy Spirit, but the agency through which He operates. The Spirit directs our lives as we submit to and abide by the revealed word.

When we are obedient to God's word, it is then that the Spirit controls us.

1. We are born again when we obey the truth that was given through the Spirit (1 Peter 1:22-23).
2. When we obey the word given by the Spirit, we bear the fruit of the Spirit in our lives (Galatians 5:22-23).

One is figuratively indwelt by the Spirit at the time he becomes a servant of God and ceases to be a servant of the devil -- in other words, at his baptism (Rom. 6:3-18). Though the penitent believer prior to baptism has absorbed the Word and has followed the Spirit's direction, as revealed in the Word, even to the point of submitting his will to God's will, he has not yet crossed the threshold which places him cleansed of sin, cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ (1 Pet. 1:22).

What does the Holy Spirit do for a Christian?

- 1) The Spirit dwells in us as a guarantee of our inheritance until our redemption is complete (Eph. 1:13-14).
- 2) The Spirit dwells in us as an ever present reminder that we are not our own but that we belong to God (James 1:19-23).
- 3) The Holy Spirit serves as an intermediary between God and us. When we pray the Holy Spirit helps us in our weaknesses to relay to God the true intent of our hearts (Romans 8:26-27).
- 4) The Holy Spirit comforts a Christian (Acts 9:31).
- 5) The Holy Spirit produces joy in the Christian (Rom. 14:17; Gal. 5:22-23)
- 6) The Holy Spirit strengthens the Christian (Eph. 3:16; Rom. 8:13)
- 7) The Holy Spirit pours out the love of God in the heart of the Christian (Rom. 5:5).
- 8) The Holy Spirit causes hope to abound in the Christian (Rom. 15:13).
- 9) The Holy Spirit transforms the Christian (2 Cor. 3:18).
- 10) The Holy Spirit produces fruit in the Christian (Gal. 5:22-23).

The Spirit comes to us when we have the spirit of Faith (2 Cor. 4:13-14). Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God (Rom.10:17).

INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT DOCTRINES

Holy Spirit No Indwelling



The Holy Spirit does NOT indwell the Christian in any way.

This doctrine is false.

The Holy Spirit dwells in Christians, (Romans 8:9; 1 Cor. 6:19). To deny this fact is to deny the Bible.

It is not a question of "if" but "how." How does the Holy Spirit dwell in us?

Holy Spirit Operates Independent of Word



The Holy Spirit does indwell the Christian. In addition, the Holy Spirit operates directly upon the heart of a sinner/Christian separate from the Word of God.

This doctrine is false.

- 1) This doctrine renders God partial since all do not receive direct operation (Acts 10:34-35)
- 2) The doctrine cancels the all sufficiency of the scriptures (2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:3).
- 3) The doctrine disregards the fact that the gospel is God's exclusive power to effect salvation (Rom. 1:16; Jas. 1:21; Acts 11:14).

Holy Spirit Literal Indwelling



The Holy Spirit does literally dwell in the heart of a Christian but does NOT operate separate from the Word of God. The Holy Spirit directly convicts, leads, and edifies the human mind only through the Word,

The Holy Spirit Himself (as a non-miraculous "gift") is bestowed upon every Christian just as soon as he or she receives the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). Thus, it is held that the Holy Spirit does not dwell "representatively" but in a literal, personal way inside the Christian's mind or heart just exactly as his own human spirit dwells there, and that this is no more a modern-day miracle than God's imparting the human spirit into a baby at conception (Zech. 12:1).

Since the Holy Spirit is part of the Godhead, if He literally dwells in us so must God and Christ.

A distinction must be made between the "Person" and "Presence" of Deity.