Doctrine of the Holy Spirit – Berean Sunday School Class Highland Baptist Church Dr. Byron S. Chesney, M.Min, Th.D pastor@hbcknox.org, 6014 Babelay Rd. Knoxville, TN 37924

Lesson 1:

I. Introduction

A. The study of the Holy Spirit – "pneumatology"

Pneuma = wind or breath (example pneumatic drill, pneumonia)

B. The importance of understanding the doctrine of the Holy Spirit

- Least understood person of the Godhead. Almost all false doctrine deals with the Holy Spirit.
- Holy Spirit reveals and inspires the Bible.
- We are saved by the Spirit's work.
- John 3:8: The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.
- The work of the Holy Spirit is conversion.
- The Holy Spirit is the One that keeps us saved. Ephesians 4:30: And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.
- Once you are saved by the Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit seals you and keeps you saved.
- Teaching there is some kind of "second filling of the spirit," is a false teaching.
- Misunderstanding and misrepresenting the Holy Spirit produces heresy. Ex: salvation by works, loss of security, Calvinism, new Bible versions, etc...
- If you understand the doctrine and works of the Holy Spirit, you will understand the Christian life.

II. The personality of the Holy Spirit

A. The Holy Spirit has attributes of personality

1. Intelligence –

- Holy Spirit knows and searches the things of God.
- 1 Corinthians 2:10-11 Spirit searches all things and knows all things.
 10 But God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.
 - 11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.
- Isaiah 11:1-2 Spirit of wisdom, understanding, knowledge.
 - 1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:
 - 2 And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

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- Ephesians 1:17 Spirit of wisdom, revelation, and knowledge of Him
 17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:
- Romans 8:27 possesses a mind.

27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what *is* the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to *the will of* God.

• 1 Corinthians 2:13 – Spirit teaches by comparing Spiritual things with Spiritual things.

13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

2. Emotion

Spirit can be grieved by our sinning.

Ephesians 4:30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

• Spirit has hope.

Romans 15:13 Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

• Spirit has love.

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

3. Will

Holy Spirit distributes spiritual gifts.

1 Corinthians 12:11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

• Holy Spirit guides God's people.

Acts 16:6-12 Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia, 7 After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not. 8 And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas. 9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us. 10 And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them. 11 Therefore loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis; 12 And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days.

B. The Holy Spirit performs the actions of personality

1. The spirit teaches

• John 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

2. The spirit testifies for witnesses

- John 15:26 But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:
- Romans 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

3. The spirit guides

• Romans 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

4. The spirit convicts or convinces

• John 16:7-8 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. 8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

5. The spirit restrains

• Genesis 6:3 And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.

6. The spirit commands and directs people.

• Acts 8:29 Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.

7. The spirit performs miracles.

 Acts 8:39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

8. The spirit calls for special service.

• Acts 13:2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

9. The spirit sends forth into Christian service.

 Acts 8:39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

10. The spirit intercedes.

• Romans 8:26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.