

Pneumatology

Pneumatology is the study of the Holy Spirit, including His nature and work.

The Nature of the Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit is the one unique God (Matt. 1:20; Luke 1:35; Acts 5:3-4).
- He is co-equal, co-eternal, and co-existent with the Father and Jesus Christ (Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14 Heb. 9:14).
- He possesses all the divine essence and attributes (Ps. 139:7; Isa. 40:13; 1 Cor. 2:12; 6:11).
- The Holy Spirit is a person possessing mind, emotion, and will (Matt. 12:31-32; Acts 5:3-4; 1 Cor. 2:10-11; 12:11).

The Work of the Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit was active in the work of creation (Gen. 1:2; Ps. 104:30).
- The Holy Spirit indwelt some Old Testament saints, but this indwelling was not permanent (Gen. 41:38; Num. 27:18; Ps. 51:11).
- The Holy Spirit empowered some of the Old Testament saints for specific tasks (Ex. 31:3; 35:31).
- Jesus was conceived, and descended upon at His baptism, by the Holy Spirit (Matt. 3:16; Luke 1:35).
- The Holy Spirit filled and empowered Jesus (Isa. 11:2; 61:1-2; Matt. 12:28; Luke 4:1, 18).
- Old Testament prophets spoke by means of the Holy Spirit (2 Sam. 23:2; Micah 3:8).
- The Holy Spirit moved the writers of the Scriptures to write exactly what He intended (Matt. 22:43; Acts 4:25; 2 Pet 1:21).
- The Holy Spirit convicts unbelievers of sin, righteousness, and judgment (Jn. 16:7-11)
- The Holy Spirit reveals the things of God to believers (1 Cor. 2:7-14)
- The Holy Spirit is the restrainer of sin (2 Thess. 2:6-8).
- The Holy Spirit works in the hearts of those who are elect so as to make the calling of God effective (Rom. 11:29; Rev. 22:17).

The Work of the Holy Spirit

- At salvation, the Holy Spirit performs several works on behalf of the believer that are permanent and cannot be revoked (Rom. 11:29).
 - At salvation, the Holy Spirit regenerates the believer by imparting new life to him (John 3:5; Titus 3:5).
 - At salvation, the Holy Spirit baptizes the believer by placing him into the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:12, 13).
 - At salvation, the Holy Spirit indwells the believer by taking up residency in him (Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 6:19-20).
 - At salvation, the Holy Spirit seals the believer by becoming the guarantee of his future redemption (Eph. 1:14; 4:30).
 - At salvation, the Holy Spirit gives each believer one or more spiritual gifts (Rom. 12; 1 Cor. 12; Eph. 4; 1 Pet. 4).
- The Holy Spirit sanctifies the believer (Gal. 5:16-25; Eph. 5:18; Heb. 10:14; 12:14; 1 Pet. 1:2).
- The Holy Spirit guarantees the believer's glorification (2 Cor. 1:22; Eph. 1:13; 4:30).

The Work of the Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit can be opposed in several ways.
 - An unbeliever could blaspheme the Holy Spirit during Jesus' time on earth (Mark 3:28-30)
 - An unbeliever can resist the Holy Spirit by not believing the Scriptures (Acts 7:51)
 - A believer can rebel against the Holy Spirit by refusing to be led by Him (Isa. 63:10)
 - A believer can lie to the Holy Spirit by practicing deceit (Acts 5:3-4)
 - A believer can test the Holy Spirit by lying (Acts 5:7-9)
 - A believer can grieve the Holy Spirit by doing what He does not want done (Isa. 63:10; Eph. 4:30).
 - A believer can quench the Holy Spirit by not doing what He wants done (1 Thess. 5:19).
 - A believer can insult the Holy Spirit by sinning willfully (Heb. 10:29).
- The Holy Spirit is the one who provides the power for a fruitful life (Zech. 4:6; Acts 1:8; Gal. 5:22, 23).

Summary

- The Holy Spirit is God.
- The Holy Spirit is a person, not a thing.
- Jesus was dependent upon the Holy Spirit.
- A believer is dependent upon the Holy Spirit.
- Apart from the Holy Spirit, we can know nothing of God.
- Pneumatology is a subset of theology.

*For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function,
so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another,*

Romans 12:4-5 (LSB)

*And I looked, and behold, sinews were on them, and flesh came up upon them, and skin covered them;
but there was no breath in them.*

Ezekiel 37:8 (LSB)

For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.

James 2:26 (LSB)



*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.
And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord.
There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons.
But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*

1 Corinthians 12:4–7 (NAB)

toward

“bring together”



