

WHAT WE BELIEVE

God the Holy Spirit

ARTICLE 2

II C. God the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, fully divine. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures. Through illumination He enables men to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He calls men to the Saviour, and effects regeneration. At the moment of regeneration He baptizes every believer into the Body of Christ. He cultivates Christian character, comforts believers, and bestows the spiritual gifts by which they serve God through His church. He seals the believer unto the day of final redemption. His presence in the Christian is the guarantee that God will bring the believer into the fullness of the stature of Christ. He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service. *Genesis*

1:2; Judges 14:6; Job 26:13; Psalms 51:11; 139:7ff.; Isaiah 61:1-3; Joel 2:28-32; Matthew 1:18; 3:16; 4:1; 12:28-32; 28:19; Mark 1:10,12; Luke 1:35; 4:1,18-19; 11:13; 12:12; 24:49; John 4:24; 14:16-17,26; 15:26; 16:7-14; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4,38; 4:31; 5:3; 6:3; 7:55; 8:17,39; 10:44; 13:2; 15:28; 16:6; 19:1-6; Romans 8:9-11,14-16,26-27; 1 Corinthians 2:10-14; 3:16; 12:3-11,13; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; 5:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:19; 1 Timothy 3:16; 4:1; 2 Timothy 1:14; 3:16; Hebrews 9:8,14; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 John 4:13; 5:6-7; Revelation 1:10; 22:17.

OUR BELIEFS

God the Holy Spirit

We believe that God the Holy Spirit is active in convincing unbelievers of their need for salvation, calling people to Jesus Christ. He is active in the lives of believers as the Comforter and Guide, cultivating Christian character, bestowing spiritual gifts, and exalting Jesus Christ. He lives in every believer.

Definition - The Work of the Holy Spirit is to manifest the active presence of God in the world, and especially in the church.

OUR BELIEFS

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THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- The Holy Spirit Empowers
- He gives new life in regeneration.
- He gives power for service.
 - Old Testament
 - Isaiah 63:11-12 *Then he remembered the days of old, of Moses and his people. Where is he who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? Where is he who put in the midst of them his Holy Spirit, who caused his glorious arm to go at the right hand of Moses, who divided the waters before them to make for himself an everlasting name,*

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- He gives power for service (*cont'd*)
 - New Testament
 - Jesus
 - The saints

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- **The Holy Spirit Purifies**

- Unbelievers - John 16:8-11 *And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.*

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- Believers
 - Initial Cleansing
 - Fruit of the Spirit
 - Continual Growth - 2 Corinthians 3:18 *And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.*

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- The Holy Spirit Reveals
- Revelation to the prophets and the apostle in the writing of scripture - 2 Peter 1:21 *For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.*
- Gives evidence of God's presence

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- Guides and directs God's people
- Acts 8:29 *And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot."* Acts 10:19-20 *And while Peter was pondering the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are looking for you. Rise and go down and accompany them without hesitation, for I have sent them."*
- Gives us assurance

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- Teaches and illumines - John 14:26 *But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.*

1 Corinthians 2:12, 14-15 *Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God... The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. "For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.*

THE HOLY SPIRIT UNIFIES

- *Philippians 2:1-2 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.*