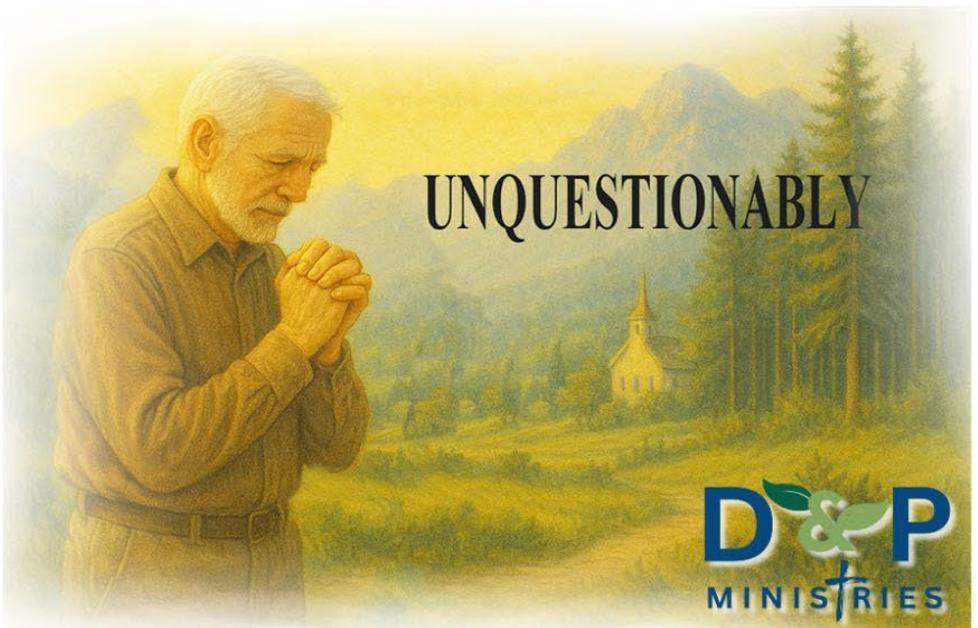
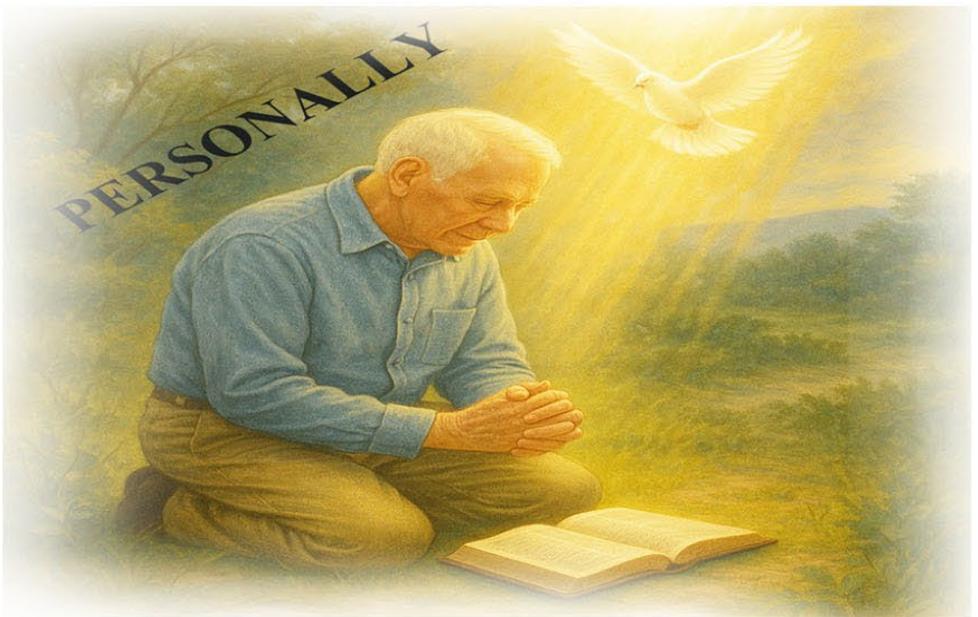
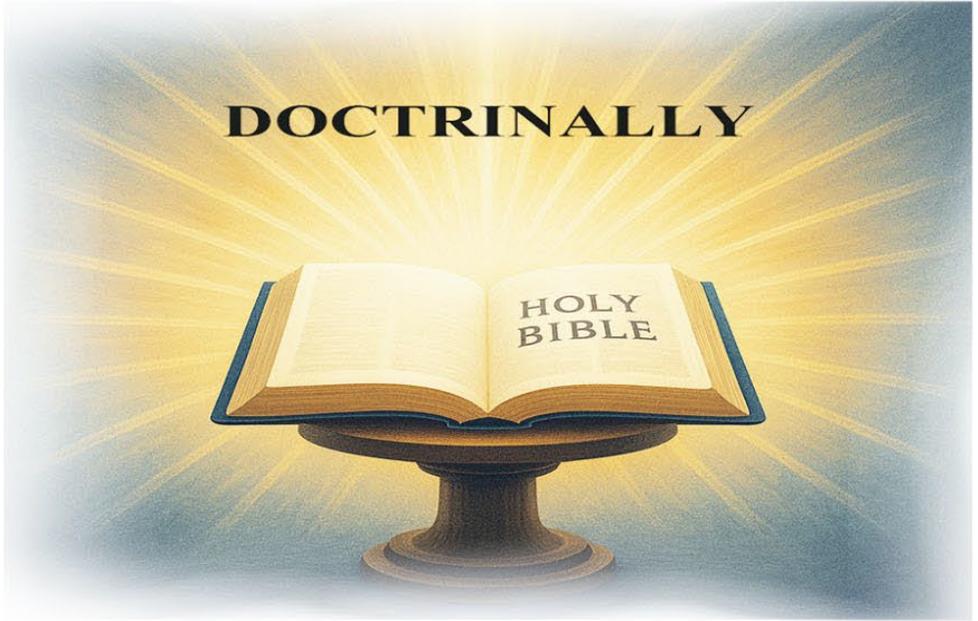


LIFE IS IN THE SPIRIT



DO YOU KNOW HIM?



LIFE IS IN THE SPIRIT DO YOU KNOW HIM?

Getting to Know Him

In the beginning, before the world took shape, the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. The earth was formless and empty, yet the Spirit hovered active, present, preparing creation to receive God's Word. This was no passive presence; it was the gentle power of God bringing order out of chaos. Later, Job would affirm, "The Spirit of God hath made me," declaring that life itself came through the breath of the Almighty. From the first moment of creation, the Spirit was not only forming the world but also sustaining it with divine life.

Throughout the Old Testament, the Spirit came upon chosen individuals to accomplish God's purposes. Gideon, weak in himself, became a mighty deliverer because "the Spirit of the LORD came upon him." When David was anointed king, the Spirit came upon him from that day forward, equipping him for leadership and worship. The prophets also spoke of a coming Messiah, saying that the Spirit would rest upon Him in fullness, the Spirit of wisdom, counsel, and the fear of the Lord. It was a promise of someone in whom the Spirit would dwell permanently.

That promise was fulfilled in the incarnation. The angel told Mary that the Holy Ghost would come upon her and the power of the Highest would overshadow her. The same Spirit who once hovered over the deep now overshadowed her womb, bringing

forth the Son of God. When Jesus was baptized, the Spirit descended like a dove, confirming His identity and empowering His ministry. He would go forward in the power of the Spirit, healing, teaching, and fulfilling the will of the Father.

After Jesus' ascension, the Spirit came again, this time to dwell in all who believe. On the Day of Pentecost, the sound of a rushing wind filled the room, and tongues of fire rested on each believer. The Church was born by the same Spirit who gave life at creation. Now, the Spirit seals every believer as God's own and lives within to guide, teach, and transform. Paul would write, "Not by works of righteousness... but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost."

The Spirit who once moved over the waters now moves in the hearts of men. He is still creating, still calling, and still bringing light where there was once darkness. The story of the Holy Spirit is not just a thread through Scripture; it is the lifeline of the Church, the breath of every believer, and the wonder of God dwelling within us.

Knowing the Holy Spirit, Doctrinally

To know the Holy Spirit doctrinally is to understand who He is as revealed in Scripture, not by feeling or tradition, but by truth. He is not a force or influence, but a divine Person, equal with the Father and the Son. From Genesis to Revelation, He is present, powerful, and active in creation, redemption, and the life of every believer. The Spirit is eternal, holy, wise, and sovereign, and He speaks, teaches, convicts, comforts, and leads. Sound doctrine about the Holy Spirit lays the foundation for true worship,

spiritual growth, and a right understanding of God's work in the world today.

PNEUMATOLOGY-- THE STUDY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. He Is Creator - Gen 1:2

- And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

2. He Is God - Acts 5:3-4; 1Joh 4:15; Joh 14:16-17; Rom 8:9

- Acts 5:3 But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? 4 While it remained, was it not thine own? And after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? Why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? Thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.
- 1 John 4:15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.
- John 14:16-17 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.
- Rom 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

3. He Is Eternal - Heb 9:14

- Heb 9:14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to

God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

4. He Is A Person - John 16:7-8

- John 16:7 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. He Is The Regenerator - Titus 3:5

- Tit 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

Knowing the Holy Spirit, Personally

While doctrine gives us the truth, a personal relationship with the Holy Spirit gives us life. Jesus said the Spirit would dwell in us, not just among us, and that His presence would be our comfort, our guide, and our strength.

To know the Holy Spirit personally begins with a new birth. In John 3:5-6, Jesus told Nicodemus, “Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.”

Being born of the Spirit is not religious improvement; it is divine transformation. What is born of the flesh remains flesh, but what is born of the Spirit becomes alive to God. Until that moment, the Spirit remains a mystery, but after that moment, He becomes a Friend, a Helper, and a constant Presence.

Once we are born again, the Holy Spirit comes to live within us not for a moment, but forever. Jesus said in John 14:16-17 that the Spirit would be with us and in us, and that we would know Him. The world cannot receive Him, but those who belong to Christ do not live apart from Him. He whispers to our spirit and soul, speaks through the Word, convicts our hearts, comforts our wounds, and makes God's presence real in daily life. He is not far away. He is within, guiding us with love and power.

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God (Romans 8:14). This verse shows that the Spirit is not silent; He leads. He speaks, nudges, warns, prompts, and gives peace when the path is right. His leadership may not always be loud, but it is always faithful. Following the Spirit is one of the surest signs that we belong to Christ and are born again by the Spirit's birth.

The Holy Spirit also gives us a deep sense of belonging. Galatians 4:6 tells us that the Spirit cries out within us, "Abba, Father." That's not formal religion, that's a personal relationship. The Spirit brings a childlike trust into our hearts, assuring us that God is not only Lord but Father, loving, near, and attentive. Knowing the Spirit means living in that assurance every day.

In 1 Corinthians 2:12, we are reminded that the Spirit helps us understand "the things that are freely given to us of God." He opens the eyes of our heart to see what we once missed. Scripture comes alive. God's promises feel personal. The Spirit does not just teach, He makes truth real and unforgettable.

Finally, Ephesians 4:30 tells us not to grieve the Holy Spirit, by whom we are sealed for the day of redemption. Only a Person can

be grieved. This verse shows us that the Spirit feels and responds, not in anger, but in sorrow when we ignore or resist Him. To know the Spirit personally means to care deeply about what pleases Him because He lives in us as our closest Companion.

To know the Holy Spirit personally is to walk daily with the presence of God living within you. He is not distant or silent. He is near, dwelling in every believer, guiding with wisdom and comforting with grace. Jesus said He would not leave us comfortless, but would send the Spirit to be our Helper, our Counselor, and our Companion. The Spirit speaks through the Word, convicts us gently of sin, and leads us into truth one step at a time. This is not religion, this is a relationship, and it is the wonder of knowing the Spirit of God as your closest friend.

Knowing the Holy Spirit, Unquestionably Without Doubting His Word or Your Salvation

There are two groups of people in our churches. Some are described as the ungodly in the congregation of the righteous and the tares among the wheat. Others sit quietly in church, unsure if they've ever truly been born again. They may know the right words, bow their heads in prayer, and try to live a good life, but inside, there is a void, an uncertainty, a question they're afraid to ask: Have I really received the Holy Spirit? Doubt can feel like a prison when pride or fear keeps the door locked. But God's Word says we can know we are His not by our feelings or performance, but by the truth of His promise. The Spirit of God never turns away the humble heart that cries out for mercy and light.

The Holy Spirit Glorifies the Son
Simon the Sorcerer: A Warning Example

- Psa 1:4-5, The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. 5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinner in the congregation of the righteous.
- Matt 13:38-39 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; 39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.

Simon the Sorcerer is a sobering example of the tares: someone who made a public profession but never truly received the Holy Spirit. Though he believed with his mind and was baptized with water, his heart remained unchanged, and his motives revealed that he did not know the Spirit personally. He desired power without repentance, and influence without surrender. When confronted by Peter, he showed fear but no personal cry for mercy, asking others to pray for him, but never humbling himself before God. His story warns us that no outward act can replace the inward work of the Spirit, and that to know the Holy Spirit unquestionably is to receive Him by grace, through a heart that is made right with God.

Summary of Acts 8:9-24

Simon had long amazed the people of Samaria with his sorcery. When Philip preached the gospel, many believed and were baptized, including Simon (v. 13). He followed Philip and was astonished by the miracles. However, when Peter and John came and laid hands on the new believers to receive the Holy Spirit, Simon offered them money to receive this power (vv. 18–19). Peter’s rebuke was sharp:

“Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.”
(Acts 8:20-21)

Spiritual Insights:

Simon made a profession but had no possession.

Verse 13 says Simon believed and was baptized, yet Peter later says he had “no part or lot in this matter.” His faith was not saving faith. It was intellectually or emotionally drawn by miracles, not conviction.

He lacked the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit had not yet come upon him. Simon saw the Spirit’s power as something external to be bought, controlled, or used. He had no sense of the Spirit’s holiness or personal repentance.

His heart was unchanged.

Peter saw the reality: “Your heart is not right with God.” Simon still operated from pride, power-seeking, and self-interest. The Spirit convicts and cleanses, but Simon wanted to manipulate, not surrender.

He feared judgment but did not repent personally.

In verse 24, Simon says, “Pray ye to the Lord for me...” but he does not pray himself. He fears the consequences of sin but shows no evidence of inward repentance. His response was self-preserving, not Spirit-seeking.

Application to the “Unquestionably vs. Questionably People:

Simon is a warning. One can hear the Word, be moved by miracles, make a public profession, and still not be born of the Spirit. He represents the man who remains in doubt because the Spirit has never taken residence in his heart. He knows power but not the Person. He wants the gifts of God without surrendering to the Giver. To know the Holy Spirit unquestionably is to receive Him by grace, not grasp at Him for gain. It is to be changed, not just amazed.

Knowing the Holy Spirit unquestionably begins with a new birth and believing the gospel without hesitation. Jesus died for sinners, rose again, and offers new life for all those who, with repentance and faith, trust Him. If you are unsure, don't stay silent; run to the cross and ask God to make your salvation sure. His Word is not unclear, and His grace is not unreachable. The Holy Spirit is not a mystery reserved for the few. He is a gift from the Father to every soul that comes to Jesus Christ. Is He speaking to you now?

Dear Lord,

I come to You with an unsure heart and a soul that longs for peace. I have heard of Your Spirit, but do not know if I have truly received Him. I do not want to pretend, and I do not want to stay in doubt. I believe that Jesus is the eternal Son of God. He died for me and rose again, and I ask now with all that I am for Your mercy, Your forgiveness, and the gift of Your Spirit. Make me new, Lord. Let me be born again, not just in words, but in truth. Seal me with Your Spirit, teach me to walk with You, and let me know without question that I belong to You forever. In Jesus' name, Amen.

1 John 5:13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know [unquestionably] that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name [Yahweh/Jehovah] of the Son of God.

THE SEED REMAINS

A Chapter From The WONDER Book

THE WONDER OF GOD'S SEED

Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for His seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God (1 John 3:9).

When God brings someone into His family, He plants something deep within them, His 'seed'. This is not something physical, but spiritual. It refers to His life, His nature, His righteousness. Just as a seed from a tree produces that tree's fruit, so God's seed produces a life that begins to look more and more like Jesus. It doesn't leave or fade away; it continues growing and gives you a hunger and thirst for righteousness.

Understanding the Word 'Seed'

The original Greek word is sperma, showing that what God gives us in the new birth is His own spiritual DNA. His seed means His life now lives in us. A true believer may fall into sin, but he cannot continue in it as his lifestyle. God's life inside will convict, discipline, and ultimately lead him back to righteousness. The seed does not allow peace with sin; the Seed produces discomfort and a longing to return to fellowship with God.

The Battle Within

John isn't teaching that Christians never sin. Earlier in his letter, he encourages believers to confess their sins. The point is that we no longer live in sin the same way, we are no longer comfortable with it. The seed of God creates a new appetite, a new direction, and a new identity. While the old nature may still tempt us, the new nature pushes back with power from within.

The Word and the Seed

This seed can also be linked to the Word of God. As 1 Peter 1:23 says, we are born again "by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." The Word is the instrument, and the seed is the life it brings. When God's truth enters a willing heart, it plants something eternal, His own life. This is the wonder of salvation: God's nature is now in us, changing us from the inside out.

God's Seed in You (Simplified for Easy Reading)

What does 1 John 3:9 mean?

This verse tells us that when someone becomes a real child of God, something new begins to grow inside them. It's called "His seed." It's like a special kind of life that only God can give His own life inside you. This seed helps you want to do what's right and makes it hard to keep doing wrong.

Does it mean you'll never sin again?

No, not at all! Christians still make mistakes and sometimes sin. But if you have God's life inside you, you won't be happy living in sin. God will help you see it, confess it, and want to stop doing it. His life in you is stronger than the pull to do wrong. What is this seed like?

Think of it like a seed that grows into a tree. If you plant an apple seed, you get apples. If God plants His seed in you, it will grow into a life that shows His love, truth, and power. It takes time, but that seed never goes away; it keeps growing as you follow Him. Where does the seed come from?

It comes from God's Word! The Bible tells us that we are born again by believing what God says. When we trust in Jesus, He plants that seed in us. And once it's there, it starts to grow, and it makes you more and more like Jesus every day.

O LORD, help every believer who is born of the Spirit to appreciate this great wonder of Your seed planted within. May we never take for granted the new life You have given us through our Lord Jesus Christ. Let Your Spirit continually remind us that we are not our own, but have been born again to live in righteousness and truth. Strengthen our desire to walk in obedience and cause the seed of Your Word to grow richly in our hearts. May Your life in us bear fruit that glorifies You.

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The Holy Spirit

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- Matt 24:35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Proofreading, Grammatical, and Content Support

- The Microsoft Word 365 App
- The Grammarly App
- The ChatGPT OpenAI, 2024

I hope this short lesson will encourage your heart to experience the reality of being born of the Spirit and God's great salvation. May you desire to walk with the Lord, and if you do, He will empower the Holy Spirit and lead you to victory, for greater is He, the Holy Spirit Who is in you, than all your enemies, even the serpent.

Share the gospel of Christ and His Kingdom with everyone you can and ask the Father to guide you to those open to receiving His Son. Stay prepared and faithful in prayer, trusting that this will lead to countless stories of how God brought you to the people you prayed for.

Love and prayers,

Dave Weeks