Elenctic Theology

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*Pneumatology: The Person & Work of the Holy Spirit*

## Introduction[[1]](#footnote-1)

### The Study of the Holy Spirit

#### The issues related to the Person and work of the Holy Spirit are raised in many categories of systematic theology, such as the Trinity, creation, salvation, and the church.

#### As such, this topic is difficult to cover in one category of theology.

####

### Definition of Terms

#### “Spirit”

##### Greek: *Pneuma* (pneuma)

##### Hebrew: *Ruach* (hW^r)

#### Various Uses of the Term

##### Spirit

##### Breath

##### Wind

##### Dominant Disposition

## The personality & deity of the holy spirit

### The Holy Spirit as a Distinct Person of the Trinity

#### Introduction

#### Definitions

#### The *Opera Ad Intra* of the Holy Spirit in Relation to the Father and the Son (See ECD Theology Proper Syllabus)

##### Definition

##### The Procession of the Holy Spirit

###### The Biblical Foundation: John 15:26, *et alii*

###### Ontological & Economic Procession

###### The *Filioque* Controversy

***The Western Church***

***The Eastern Church***

## the work of the holy spirit in the ot & nt and in the life of christ

### The Holy Spirit in Creation and Providence

#### **The Fact the Spirit’s Work**

##### ***Gen. 1:1-2***

##### ***Ps. 33:6***

##### ***Ps. 104:30***

##### ***Is. 40:12-14***

##### ***Job 33:4***

#### **The Nature of the Spirit’s Work**

##### ***The Immanence of God Through His Spirit—Ps. 139:7***

##### ***Life Imparted Through the Spirit—Gen. 2:7***

### The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

#### **Ministry to Specific Individuals**

##### ***Special Equipping for Theocratic Functions***

###### *The Various Groups & Individuals*

***Builders of the Tabernacle—Ex. 31:1ff***

***Moses, Joshua and the 70 Elders—Num. 11:17 ff.; 27:18***

***Judges—Judges 6:34; 11:29; 14:6, 19***

***Kings—I Sam. 10:6; 16:13***

***Prophets—Num. 11:26 ff.; Hos 9:7***

###### *The Extensiveness of This Ministry of the Holy Spirit*

Sovereign for Specific Functions—I Sam. 16:14; Judges 13:25, cf. 16:20

The Relationship was Not the Indwelling of the Heart of the New Covenant—
Jn. 14:17

#### **The Universal Ministry of the Holy Spirit**

##### ***The Fact of the Ministry***

###### *Gen. 6:3*

###### *Is. 63:10-11, 14*

###### *Zech. 4:6*

###### *Ps. 51:11*

##### ***The Universal Ministry Distinguished From the Indwelling of the New Covenant***

###### *Specific Statements*

Jn. 7:39

Jn. 14:17

###### *Specific Prophecies of the New Covenant Indwelling*

Ezek. 37:14

Ezek. 36:26-27

###### *Conclusion*

#### **Old Testament Prophecies Regarding the Work of the Holy Spirit in the New Covenant**

##### The Holy Spirit will be poured out on all flesh—Joel 2:28

##### The Holy Spirit will be poured out upon Israel—Ezek. 39:29; Is. 44:3

##### The Holy Spirit will remain forever—Is. 59:21

##### The Holy Spirit will regenerate the heart—Ezek. 37:14; 36:26-27, which is the fulfillment of the law in man—Jer. 31:33; cf. Rom. 8:4

##### The Holy Spirit will rest on the Messiah, the Mediator of the New Covenant of the Spirit—II Cor. 3:6; Is. 11:2; 42:1; 61:1

### The Holy Spirit in the New Testament

#### **The Ministry of the Holy Spirit In the Gospels**

##### ***Introduction***

##### ***The Nature of the Spirit’s Work***

###### *The “Filling” of the Spirit for Prophecy*

John the Baptist—Lk. 1:15

Elizabeth—Lk. 1:41

Zacharias—Lk. 1:67

Simeon—Lk. 2:25-27

###### *The Universal Old Covenant Ministry—Lk. 11:13*

The Spirit Could Not Be Poured Out Until Jesus was Glorified.—Jn. 7:39

The Spirit was not to Come Until Christ Left His Disciples.—Jn. 16:7

At the Ascension, Christ Exhorted the Disciples to wait for the promise of the Holy Spirit.—Acts 1:4, 5, 8

#### **Understanding John 20:19-23**

### The Ministry of the Holy Spirit and the Person of Christ

#### **Introduction**

#### **The HS and the Life of Christ**

##### ***Birth***

###### The Holy Spirit was the Agent of the Conception of Christ.

###### See the discussion, *supra*, in Christology

##### ***From Birth to Baptism***

###### Jesus was apparently filled with the Spirit From Conception.

###### Scriptual Evidence

Lk. 1:15

Lk. 1:35

Lk. 2:40-52

##### ***From Baptism to Ascension***

###### *The Baptism of Christ*

At Baptism, Jesus is anointed with the Spirit for His Official Ministry as Messiah—Mt. 3:13-17; Mk. 1:9-11

Other Issues:

###### *The Temptation of Christ*

The Spirit Leads Christ to the Temptation.—Lk. 4:1; Mt. 4:1; Mk. 1:12-13

The Spirit Enables for Victory Over Temptation.—Lk. 4:1-2

The Result of Victory Over Temptation is Power In the Spirit—Lk. 4:14

###### *The Holy Spirit & Christ’s Prophetic Office*

**The Proclamation of the Word**

Jn. 3:34

Lk. 4:17-2, cf. 32

Jn. 6:63

Mk. 13:31

**The Authentication of the Word Through Signs**

Mt. 12:28 cf. Mk. 1:24; 3:11; 5:7

Acts 2:22

Acts 10:38

###### *The Holy Spirit & Christ’s Priestly Office*

Definition

Heb. 9:14

###### *The Holy Spirit & Christ’s Resurrection*

The Holy Spirit Resurrected Christ—Rom. 8:11

Indirect References Through the Concepts of Glory and Power

Acts 1:8

Rom. 6:4

I Cor. 6:14

II Cor. 3:8

I Pet. 4:14

Conclusion:

### The Exaltation of Christ and the Coming of the Holy Spirit

#### **The Holy Spirit is Sent by the Exalted Christ**

##### Christ’s Promise—Jn. 15:26; 16:7; Lk. 24:49; cf. Jn. 20:20

##### The Fulfillment of the Promise at Pentecost—Acts 2:33

##### The Promise is Grounded in the Finished Work of Christ—Gal. 3:13-14

#### **The Exalted Christ Works Through the Holy Spirit**

##### ***Christ Comes to Believers In the Holy Spirit—***

###### Jn. 14: 16-18

###### II Cor. 3:17

##### ***However, the simultaneous personal (hypostatic) distinctions between Christ and the Spirit are maintained.***

###### I Cor. 12:3

###### Rom. 8:34

###### Phil. 1:22

###### Rom. 14:9

###### I Cor. 4:5

## the work of the holy spirit in individuals

### Introduction

### The Holy Spirit & Initial Salvation

#### **The Work of “Conviction”**

##### ***The Meaning of Elegcho (*ejlegcw*) in Jn. 16:7-11***

##### ***The Applied Meaning of Elegcho (*ejlegcw*)***

###### Of Sin

The Meaning of Sin (Singular)

The o{ti Clause: Two Views

*Declarative*

*Causal*

###### Of Righteousness

###### Of Judgment

##### ***The Convicting Ministry of the Spirit Continues the Work of Christ.***

###### Jn. 9:39 cf. Jn. 12:31

###### Jn.8:24; cf. Jn. 15:22

###### Acts 3:13-14

###### Jn. 15:26

##### ***The Means and Method of Conviction***

###### *Through the Spoken Word of God*

Peter’s Sermon—Acts 2

Conviction of Sin: 2:23

Conviction of Righteousness: 2:22, 24, 36

Conviction of Judgment: 2:19, 20, 40

Others

###### *Through Living the Word of God*

Heb. 11:7

II Cor. 3:2

Mt. 5:16

#### **The Sin Against the Holy Spirit**

##### ***The Nature of the Sin***

###### *The Gospel Accounts*

Mt. 12:31-32

Mk. 3:38-30

Lk. 12:10

###### *The Possibility of This Sin Today*

Heb. 10:26-31

Heb. 6:4-6

##### ***The Results of the Sin Against the Holy Spirit***

###### *God Abandons Man to Himself*

Mt. 12:38-39

Mt. 13:10, 13

Jer. 7:13-15

###### *Man’s Heart is Hardened*

Mt. 13:14-15

###### *Belief is Impossible, thus Unpardonable*

Jn. 12:39

Mt. 13:15

Heb. 6:6

Mk. 3:28-29

Heb. 10:26

#### **The Baptism of the Holy Spirit**

##### ***The Work of Baptism***

###### *Christ is the Baptizer who Sends the Holy Spirit.*

Mt. 3:11

Mk. 1:8

Lk. 3:16

Jn. 1:33

Acts 1:5

Acts 2:33

Acts 11:16

I Cor. 12:13

###### *The Element of Baptism is the Holy Spirit.*

##### ***The Effects of Baptism of the Spirit***

###### *Incorporation of the Believer into the Body of Christ*

I Cor. 12:13

Gal. 3:27

###### *Unity of Believers*

I Cor. 12:13

Gal. 3:27-28

Eph. 4:3-6

###### *Power for Christian Service*

Gal. 3:26-27, But see

Gal. 1:6; 4:9

**Conclusion**

###### *Baptism v. Filling in the Manifestations of the Holy Spirit*

Acts 2:4

Acts 4:8, 31

Acts 13:52

Eph. 5:18

##### ***The Recipients of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit***

###### *Baptism & Pentecost*

There was No Baptism with the Holy Spirit Prior to Pentecost.

Since Pentecost, All Believers Are baptized with the Spirit—Acts 11:15-16

###### *The Condition for Holy Spirit Baptism*

***Faith in Christ is the Sole Condition for Receiving the Baptism with the Holy Spirit.***

Faith is the sole condition for the Baptism—Acts 11:17

Faith is the sole condition for union with Christ’s Body—Gal. 3:26-27; Col. 2:12

Faith is the sole condition for receiving the Spirit—Jn. 7:38-39; Gal. 3:2, 13, 14

**Conclusion:** There is no command for those with faith in Christ to be baptized with the Spirit.

***All believers are baptized with the Spirit***

I Cor. 12:12-13

Gal. 3:27

Cf. Rom. 8:9

***Problem Passages***

Acts 1:4; cf. Lk. 24:49

Acts 5:32

Acts 2:38

Acts 8:14-20

Acts 19:1-6

Lk. 11:13

#### **The Work of Regeneration**

##### ***The Meaning of Regeneration (See also, Regeneration section,* supra*)***

###### *Palingenesia*—From *palin* (again) and *genesis* (beginning)

Mt. 19:28

Titus 3:5

###### *Anagennao*—again born—I Pet. 1:3, 23

###### *Gennao anothen*—Jn. 3:3, 7

*Anothen* is vague.

It can mean “again” or “from above.”

###### *Apokueo*—James 1:18—Bring forth or Give birth to

##### ***The Primary Result of Regeneration—Life***

###### *A Life that belongs to God*

Jn. 5:26

Rom. 9:26

I Tim. 6:16

###### *Life grounded in the resurrection of Christ*

Acts 3:15

Eph. 2:5, 10

Col. 1:18

###### *The Holy Spirit as the Agent of the New Life*

***Regeneration is effected by the Holy Spirit.***

Ezek. 36:25-26

Jn. 3:5

Titus 3:5

***The Holy Spirit imparts new life through the human spirit.***

Rom. 8:16, cf. Gal. 4:6

Gal. 6:18, cf. Phil. 4:23; II Tim. 4:22

Eph. 4:23

##### ***Other Results of Regeneration***

###### *A New Person*

Rom. 6:4, 6,11

Rom. 7:17, 20, 22, 25

Gal. 2:20

Eph. 2:2

Eph. 4:22

Col. 3:9

###### A Filial Relationship to God

Rom. 8:14 ff.

Gal. 4:6

###### The Fruit of the Spirit—Gal. 5

###### The Heirship of Future Life

Titus 3:7

I Pet. 3:7, 9

I Tim. 4:8

Mt. 19:29

### The Holy Spirit and Sanctification

#### **Walking By the Spirit**

##### ***The Command to Walk by the Spirit***

###### Gal. 5:16

###### Gal. 5:25

##### ***The Necessity of Walking by the Spirit***

###### Gal 5:16-17

###### We need to do this because of the continuing struggle with sin.

##### ***The Method of Walking by the Spirit***

###### *Do Not Grieve the Holy Spirit (Eph. 4:30)*

###### *Do Not Quench the Holy Spirit (I Thes. 5:19)*

###### *Be Filled with the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18)*

The Meaning of “Filling”

The Command to be Filled

The Means and Method of Filling

The Results of the Filling of the Spirit

Power for Ministry—Lk. 1:16-17

Strength during temptation—Lk. 4:1-2

Testimony of Christ in Sermon—Acts 2:1-4

Boldness to speak the Word—Acts 4:23, 31

Fitness for Christian Service—Acts 6:1-3

Joy in the face of opposition—Acts 13:49-52

Enthusiasm for God—Eph. 5:18-21

Courage—Acts 7:54-58

Christian Character—Gal. 5:22-23

Guidance—Rom. 8:14

Assurance—Rom. 8:16

### The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

#### **Introduction**

##### ***An Increased Interest in Spiritual Gifts***

##### ***Contemporary Trends Regarding Spiritual Gifts***

##### ***The Importance of Spiritual Gifts***

#### **The Nature of Spiritual Gifts**

##### ***Spiritual Gifts*** (I Cor. 12:1; 14:1) *pneumatikon, pneumatika*

##### ***Gifts*** (I Cor. 12:4; Rom. 12:6; I Pet. 4:10) *charisma*

##### ***Ministries*** (I Cor. 12:5) *diakonia*

##### ***Effects*** (I Cor. 12:6) *energema*

##### ***Manifestations of the Spirit*** (I Cor. 12:7) *phanerosis*

##### ***Gifts*** (Eph. 4:7) *dorea* and *doma* from *didomi*

##### ***Gifts*** (Heb. 2:4) *merismos*

##### ***Final Definition of Spiritual Gifts***

#### **The Purpose of Spiritual Gifts**

##### ***For The Common Good of the Church—*I Cor. 12:7**

##### ***For Edification***

###### I Cor.13

###### I Cor. 14:3, 5-6, 12, 26;

###### Eph. 4:11-13, 16;

###### I Pet. 4:10

#### **The Identity of Spiritual Gifts**

##### ***Introduction***

###### *The Issue of the Completeness of the Scriptural Lists of Gifts*

###### *The Issue of the Temporality of Some of the Spiritual Gifts*

**The Scriptural Evidence**

**The Post New Testament Evidence**

##### ***The Gifts of the Spirit***

###### *Word of Wisdom (I Cor. 12:8)*

###### *Word of Knowledge (I Cor. 12:8)*

###### *Faith (I Cor. 12:9)*

###### *Healings (I Cor. 12:9)*

###### *Miracles (I Cor. 12:10)*

###### *Prophecy (I Cor. 12:10, 28; Rom. 12:6; Eph. 4:11)*

###### *Discernment of Spirits (I Cor. 12:10)*

###### *Tongues (I Cor. 12:10, 30; 14:1-39)*

###### *Interpretation of Tongues (I Cor. 12:10, 30)*

###### *Apostles (I Cor. 12:28; Eph. 4:11)*

###### *Teachers (I Cor. 12:28; Rom. 12:7; Eph. 4:11)*

###### *Helps (I Cor. 12:28)*

###### *Administration (I Cor. 12:28)*

###### *Service (Rom. 12:7)*

###### *Exhortation (Rom. 12:8)*

###### *Giving (Rom. 12:8)*

###### *Leading (Rom. 12:8)*

###### *Mercy (Rom. 12:8)*

###### *Evangelist (Eph. 4:11)*

###### *Pastor (Eph. 4:11)*

#### **The Relationship of the Gifts to Believers**

##### ***Obtaining Spiritual Gifts***

###### *Spiritual Gifts are Sovereignly Distributed by God.*

**They are *given* by God—I Cor. 12:7, 11, 18, 28; Rom. 12:3, 6**

**They are *charismata* (gifts) and cannot be earned.**

**They are *received* by believers.—I Pet. 4:10**

**The Issue of I Cor. 12:31: Desiring the Greater Gifts**

###### *The Timing of the Reception of Spiritual Gifts*

###### *The Relationship of Spiritual Gifts to Natural Abilities*

##### ***The Number of Spiritual Gifts Given to a Believer***

###### The Single Gift View

###### The Multi-Gift View

##### ***Recognizing One’s Spiritual Gift (or Gifts)***

1. A variety of sources were consulted in the preparation of this ECD Pneumatology Syllabus. The following is a partial list of the principal sources consulted for this work: Brown, Colin, ed. *New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology*. 4 vols. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1974-78, 1985; Elwell, Walter, ed. *Evangelical* *Dictionary of Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1984; Kittel, Gerhard, Gerhard Friedrich, and Ronald Pitkin. *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*. 10 vols. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1964-1976; Muller, Richard A. *Dictionary of Latin and Greek Theological Terms*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1985; Berkhof, Louis. *Systematic Theology*. 4th ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1949; Buswell, J.O., Jr. *A Systematic Theology of the Christian Religion*. Two vols. in one. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1962, 1963; Calvin, John. *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. 2 vols. Edited by J.T. McNeill. Trans. by F.L. Battles. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1960; Heppe, Heinrich. *Reformed Dogmatics: Set Out And Illustrated From the Sources*. Grand Rapids: Baker; Hodge, Charles. *Systematic Theology*. 3 vols. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1975; Saucy, Robert*. Pneumatology Syllabus. Talbot School of Theology (1998-Used with permission from author)*; Shedd, W.G.T. *Dogmatic Theology*. 3 vols. New York: Scribners, 1888-1894; Strong, A.H. *Systematic Theology*. Three vols. in one. Valley Forge: Judson, 1907; Thiessen, H.C. *Lectures in Systematic Theology*. Revised by V.D. Doerksen. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1979. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)