

# THE HOLY SPIRIT AT WORK

C. ERNEST  
TATHAM



*Developed as a study course by Emmaus Correspondence School, founded in 1942.*

*The Holy Spirit at Work*

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# STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS

There are two extreme attitudes today regarding the subject of the Holy Spirit. One of these disregards Him almost entirely, substituting religious ritual or church attendance without any real spiritual power. The other attitude places an unwarranted stress on the operations of the Holy Spirit at the expense of the written Word of God.

One of these extremes expresses itself in frigid formalism; the other in fervent fanaticism. The one freezes; the other burns!

The object of this course is to present simply but biblically the truth of the “Other Helper” whom the Father has sent to dwell with us and to be in us (John 14:16). His Word clearly marks out the Christian’s *path*, while the Spirit provides the *power*.

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## **Course Components**

This course has two parts: this study course and the exam booklet.

## **How To Study**

This study has twelve chapters, and each chapter has its own exam. Begin by asking God to help you understand the material. Read the chapter through at least twice, once to get a general idea of its contents and then again, slowly, looking up any Bible references given.

Begin studying immediately, or if you are in a group, as soon as the group begins. We suggest that you keep a regular schedule by trying to complete at least one chapter per week.

## **Exams**

In the exam booklet there is one exam for each chapter (exam 1 covers chapter 1 of the course). Do not answer the questions by what you think or have always believed. The questions are designed to find out if you understand the material given in the course.

After you have completed each chapter, review the related exam and see how well you know the answers. If you find that you are having difficulty answering the questions, review the material until you think you can answer the questions. It is important that you read the Bible passages referenced as some questions may be based on the Bible text.

## **How Your Exams Are Graded**

Your instructor will mark any incorrectly answered questions. You will be referred back to the place in the course where the correct answer is to be found. After finishing this course with a passing average, you will be awarded a certificate.

If you enrolled in a class, submit your exam papers to the leader or secretary of the class who will send them for the entire group to the Correspondence School.

See the back of the exam booklet for more information on returning the exams for grading.

# 1

## THE PERSONHOOD OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

It's an interesting fact that the Holy Spirit of God is mentioned in both the opening and the closing verses of our Bible. Standing on the threshold of the Book, we see Him at work in creation, moving on the face of the waters (Gen. 1:2). And on the point of entering the eternal future, we hear that same Spirit joining with the bride, saying, "Come" (Rev. 22:17). In fact, the whole Bible testifies to the Spirit's significant role and work in the history of mankind.

Our study of this unique One, must, however, begin by asking and answering two important questions: (1) Is the Spirit a *Person*, and (2) Is He *God*?

These questions will occupy us in our first two lessons.

### **Is the Spirit a Person?**

Is the Spirit a Person? Numerous heretical cults answer, "No." They teach that the Spirit is an impersonal influence, or force. But Holy Scripture emphatically denies this line of thought. The fact that the Spirit has not become incarnate (i.e., assumed a body) does not mean He is not a Person. God the Father is accepted as being a Person, and yet *He* has never become incarnate.

A person has intellect, emotion, and will. By the intellect we *know*, by the emotions we *feel*, and by the will we *do*. To determine if the Spirit is a Person, we must find out what the Bible teaches about these three capacities in relation to Him.

### ***Intellect***

Is the Spirit described as an intelligent, thinking being in the Bible? In 1 Corinthians 2:10-11, referring to “the things that God has prepared for those who love Him,” the apostle Paul says, “God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For *the Spirit searches all things*, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so *no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God*” (emphasis added).

Another text that clearly testifies to the Spirit’s intellect is John 16:13, where Christ promised His disciples, “When He, the Spirit of Truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth.” The Spirit must be an intelligent being to both possess the truth and have the capacity to teach it.

### ***Emotion***

Does the Spirit possess emotions? Does He love, hate, yearn, and sorrow? Yes, He does. Turning to Ephesians 4:30 we read: “Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.” Because He can be grieved, He therefore loves. In Romans 15:30, Paul urged his friends there to pray for him and his ministry “through the love of the Spirit.”

That the Spirit can be offended is clear from Hebrews 10:29: “Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will [the apostate] be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?” (Heb. 10:29).

### ***Will***

By the will we *do*, or act. Does the Spirit have a will? Yes, and one way He exercises it is that He leads and guides. Romans 8:14 says, “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.” And in Acts 16:6-7, Paul and Silas “were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia,” and when “they tried to go into Bithynia . . . the Spirit did not permit them.”

Many other Scriptures reveal that the Holy Spirit acts as a person does, with capacities that are not characteristic of an impersonal force. We list some here:

*He communicates:* “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches” (Rev. 2:7).

*He commands:* “As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them’” (Acts 13:2).

*He intercedes:* “Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. . . . The Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered” (Rom. 8:26).

*He directs:* “Then the Spirit said to Philip, ‘Go near and overtake this chariot’” (Acts 8:29).

*He testifies about Christ:* “When the Helper comes . . . the Spirit of Truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me” (John 15:26).

*He appoints:* “Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood” (Acts 20:28).

*He warns:* “Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith” (1 Tim. 4:1).

*He reassures:* “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God” (Rom. 8:15).

## “Another Helper”

In John 14:16 the Lord Jesus refers to the Spirit as “another Helper,” One who, unlike Himself in this respect, would abide with His followers forever. The strong implication here is that no one less than a divine Person could ever be described as “*Another*.” In John 16:7 Christ tells His disciples that it is to their advantage that He goes away—otherwise, the Helper would not come. It is completely unthinkable that a mere influence or impersonal energy would be regarded as sufficient to replace Him!

————— ❖ —————

**It is completely  
unthinkable that a  
mere influence or  
impersonal energy  
would be regarded  
as sufficient to  
replace Christ!**

————— ❖ —————

At this point, and frequently throughout the remainder of this study course, we will refer to Harold P. Barker’s book on the Holy Spirit, *The Vicar of Christ*: “The word . . . . *Paraclete* . . . is the same word that is

rendered ‘Advocate’ in 1 John 2:1. It means one who looks after the interests of others, especially of those who are his dependents. . . . We may . . . think of the Holy Spirit as our truest and best Helper on earth.”

For the word “Helper” some translators have “Comforter,” or “Counselor,” or “Advocate,” or “Solicitor,” or “Lawyer.” All of these help us to understand the idea behind the term. Our Lord Jesus is the believer’s Advocate in heaven today (1 John 2:1), while the Spirit is his Advocate on earth. What a provision God has made for our spiritual maintenance! When Christ was on earth, He was everything to the disciples. He answered their questions, calmed their fears, and undertook for their needs. But He has gone back to heaven, and in His place Another has come permanently to do all this for us during His absence—the Person of the Holy Spirit of God.



# THE HOLY SPIRIT AT WORK

**EXAM BOOKLET**  
**AK '08 (1 UNIT) HSW**

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STUDENT NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

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ADDRESS

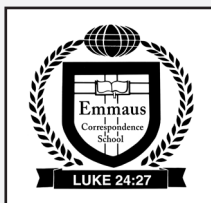
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CITY, STATE, ZIP

COURSE GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

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INSTRUCTOR



*Exam developed by Emmaus Correspondence School, founded in 1942.*

## A NOTE ON THE EXAMS

The exams are designed to check your knowledge of the course material and the Scriptures. After you have studied a chapter, review the exam questions for that lesson. If you have difficulty in answering the questions, re-read the material. If questions contain a Scripture reference, you may use your Bible to help you answer them. If your instructor has provided a single page Answer Sheet, record your answer on that sheet. This exam contains the following types of questions:

### **MULTIPLE CHOICE**

You will be asked to write in the letter of the correct answer at the space on the right. Here is an example:

The color of grass is

- A. blue                      C. yellow  
B. green                     D. orange

     **B**     

### **WHAT DO YOU SAY?**

Questions headed this way are designed to help you express your ideas and feelings. You may freely state your own opinions in answer to such questions.

### **RETURNING THE EXAM**

See the back of this exam booklet for instructions on returning your exam for grading.

**DO NOT PHOTOCOPY THESE EXAM PAGES**

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## CHAPTER 1 EXAM

### THE PERSONHOOD OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

#### EXAM GRADE

***Before starting this exam, write your name and address on the front of this Exam Booklet.***

*Directions: Read each question carefully and write the letter of the correct answer in the blank space on the right. Use the separate answer sheet if provided.*

1. The Holy Spirit is first mentioned in the Bible in
 

A. Genesis	C. John's gospel	
B. the Psalms	D. the Pauline letters	_____
  
2. The personhood of the Holy Spirit
 

A. is unsupported by Scripture		
B. is denied by numerous false cults		
C. is impossible since the Holy Spirit does not have a body		
D. is a modern concept of deity foreign to historic Christianity		_____
  
3. The aspects of personhood examined in this chapter were
 

A. emotion, will, and heart		
B. will, speech, and physical power		
C. will, intellect, and emotion		
D. intellect, emotion, and love		_____
  
4. The Holy Spirit is specifically described as an intelligent Being in
 

A. Romans 8:5-10	C. Galatians 5:22-26	
B. 1 Corinthians 2:10-11	D. Revelation 3:20	_____
  
5. Which of the following imply the Holy Spirit is a Person? He
 

A. was present at the creation		
B. is as free as the wind		
C. can be grieved		
D. is a powerful force for good		_____
  
6. Fill in the blank: "For as many as \_\_\_\_\_ by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God"
 

A. taught	C. comforted	
B. reproved	D. led	_____

7. Fill in the blank: “When the Helper comes . . . the Spirit of Truth who proceeds from the Father, \_\_\_\_\_.”
- A. He will enable you to obey Me”
  - B. He will testify of Me”
  - C. He will baptize you”
  - D. He will take away your sin nature”
- \_\_\_\_\_
8. The Lord Jesus promised the disciples that He would send them
- A. a Helper
  - B. another Helper
  - C. many other Helpers
  - D. no other Helper
- \_\_\_\_\_
9. Christ promised that the Holy Spirit would stay with His followers
- A. as long as they agreed to yield to Him
  - B. until Jerusalem was destroyed
  - C. until they finished writing the New Testament Scriptures
  - D. forever
- \_\_\_\_\_
10. Which of the following is NOT an accepted translation of the Greek word *Paraclete*?
- A. Counselor
  - B. Advocate
  - C. Comforter
  - D. Creator
- \_\_\_\_\_

**WHAT DO YOU SAY?**

What impact does the Holy Spirit being a Person and not an impersonal force have on your relationship with Him?

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