

**The Ministry of the Holy Spirit
In Relation to the Saviour - 1**

**Sermon Delivered on March 4th, 2018
AM Service**

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Text: [John 16:7-14](#)

Introduction

In the past Sundays, we have considered **the Personality** of the Holy Spirit and **the Deity** of the Holy Spirit. Today, I want us to move on to another very important subject, namely **the Ministry** of the Holy Spirit. In the coming weeks we will consider the ministry of the Holy Spirit in relation to the **Saviour**, in relation to the **sinners** and in relation to the **saints** or **saved**.

But this morning let us consider the ministry of the Holy Spirit in relation to our Saviour Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit has many roles and many ministries in the life and work of Jesus Christ.

Let me mention several of them.

1. Jesus Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit

[Luke 1:35](#) And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

2. Jesus Christ was anointed by the Holy Spirit

[Acts 10:38](#) How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

3. Jesus Christ was led by the Holy Spirit

[Matthew 4:1](#) And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,

4. Jesus Christ was filled with the Holy Spirit

[Luke 4:1](#) And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,

[Luke 4:14](#) And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about.

[Luke 4:18](#) The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and

recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, 19: To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

5. Jesus Christ performed miracles by the power of the Holy Spirit

Matthew 12:28 But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.

6. Jesus Christ sacrificed Himself by the Holy Spirit

Hebrews 9:13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: 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?

7. Jesus Christ was raised from the dead by the Holy Spirit

Romans 8:10 And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11: But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

These are just some of the many ministries of the Holy Spirit in relation to Jesus Christ. All of these are very important but **there is one supreme ministry** of the Holy Spirit in relation to Jesus Christ and He has revealed that in our text.

John 16:14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

This verse is **concise yet comprehensive summary** of the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Here in this passage our Lord Jesus tells us the “**what**” and “**how**” of the ministry of the Holy Spirit. What is the supreme ministry of the Holy Spirit and how will the Holy Spirit accomplish His supreme ministry?

I – What is the Supreme Ministry of the Holy Spirit?

This is not a trivial question but rather a very important question, because there are many movements and churches that are claiming evidence or the power or the presence of the Spirit in their ministry and life but actually disconnected from what Jesus says the purpose of the Spirit’s coming is.

John 16:14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

The supreme ministry of the Holy Spirit, Jesus tells us here in this verse.

Negatively

The supreme ministry of the Holy Spirit is not to glorify Himself. The Spirit of God **does not seek to draw attention to Himself** in any way. The Spirit of God came not primarily promote Himself or speak about Himself. The Holy Spirit has not come to magnify ministries or denomination or movements or ceremonies or rituals. He has not come to magnify ministers and preachers and singers.

Positively

The supreme ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify our Lord Jesus Christ.

John 16:14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

The Holy Spirit has come for this purpose - **to glorify Christ**. The work of the Spirit is **Christ centered**. The aim of the Spirit is **to bring glory** to the person of Jesus. That is what He is for. That's what He is given for. The supreme ministry of the Holy Spirit is **to magnify** the Person and Work of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is not to draw our attention to Himself. But to draw our attention to Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit came **to point people to the Saviour**. And any movement that points us to the Holy Spirit principally is seriously flawed from the very beginning.

Any man or ministry or movement that draws attention to the Holy Spirit is a misguided movement at best. The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to come and exalt and magnify the person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

II – How will the Holy Spirit accomplish glorifying Christ?

The Holy Spirit's aim is to glorify Jesus, but how will the Holy Spirit glorify our Lord Jesus Christ?

John 16:14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

Few words yet these are powerful words. Jesus said definitively that the Spirit will glorify Him and He says specifically that the Holy Spirit will glorify Him **by taking what belongs to Him and declaring it to His disciples.**

The Spirit is going **to reveal all truth** and the truth is **that Jesus is glorious**. The scriptures reveal the glory of Jesus. The Spirit will declare everything about Jesus.

The Spirit will take the things of Jesus and reveal them to us, glorifying Jesus. As soon as he returned to them after the resurrection, Jesus gave His followers the Spirit so that they could continue to know Him.

Jesus promised that whatever the Spirit would hear, the Spirit would make known to the disciples (16:13).

“The Holy Ghost does not reveal in these last times any fresh ordinances, or any novel doctrines, or any new evolutions; but He simply brings to mind the things which Christ Himself spoke, He brings Christ's own things to us, and in that way glorifies Him.”

The Holy Spirit did not come to glorify Himself, but Christ. And the way that He glorifies Christ is by showing or revealing everything that belongs to Christ - everything about His person, His life, His work, His character, His love and His power.

We will talk more about this next week.

III - How do we tell if the Holy Spirit is present?

One way to tell if the Holy Spirit is present is to ask “**is Jesus Christ being glorified?**”

There are a lot of things that go on in the churches today that do not magnify and glorify Christ. According to John we need to test the try or test the spirits.

1 John 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. 2: Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: 3: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

We need to try the spirit. We need to ask question, does it glorify Christ? Whatever is being said in the pulpit, or whatever is being practiced in the church, whatever goes on in the name of worship, in the name of evangelism, or any activity, or any program, the fundamental question we have to ask is this, not do we enjoy it? not does it make us feel good? not does it get some kind of result? but does it glorify the Jesus Christ?

If a person or a church claims to have the Spirit of God and yet Jesus Christ is not exalted, not uplifted, not glorified above every other thing, it is an evidence that the Spirit of God in reality is absent to a large degree. Because the Son of God said that whenever the Spirit of God comes Jesus Christ is exalted. That which does not glorify Christ is not of the Holy Spirit, and that which is of the Holy Spirit invariably glorifies our Lord Jesus Christ.

C. H. Spurgeon puts it this way,

“There are many ministries in the world, and they are very diverse from one another; but this truth will enable you to judge which is right out of them all. That ministry which makes much of Christ, is of the Holy Spirit; and that ministry which decries Him, ignores Him, or puts Him in the background in any degree, is not of the Spirit of God. Any doctrine which magnifies man, but not man's Redeemer, any doctrine which denies the depth of the Fall, and consequently derogates from the greatness of salvation, any doctrine which makes sinless, and therefore makes Christ's work less,—away with it, away with it. This shall be your infallible test as to whether it is of the Holy Ghost or not, for Jesus says, “He shall glorify me.””

Closing Thoughts

Jesus says, “He shall glorify me.” That’s the Holy Spirit’s desire and goal. He wants to bring honor and glory to Jesus! Is that your desire? Do you want to honor your Lord in all that you do?

If we have the Spirit of God with us and in us we will desire more than anything that Jesus Christ be glorified.

May we make this our aim. Let us take every opportunity of glorifying Christ.

1 Corinthians 10:31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

Like the Holy Spirit, may it be said of you and me, “He shall glorify Me.”

AMEN!