

atures and Doctrine :: Why Do We Seem to Treat Holy Spirit with Less Reverence than the Father and the Son?**Why Do We Seem to Treat Holy Spirit with Less Reverence than the Father and the Son? ... - posted by Rahman, on: 20**

This thread is inspired by Ironman's threads ...

Today's God is far too small ...

https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic_id=4944&forum=35

The Spirit ...

https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic_id=4988&forum=36&4

And inotof's ...

Basic Purpose of The Holy Spirit ...

https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?viewmode=flat&order=0&topic_id=5012&forum=36&post_id=&refresh=Go

Those 3 threads got me to thinking ... Maybe the reason God does'nt seem to do the same things He did (thru men) even right after Pentecost is because we've discounted God the Holy Spirit in His dispensation ...

The Law (OT) was the Father's dispensation of His part in His plan via Israel ... We all got that down pretty well for we know that the point of the OT was to point to the coming of the glad tidings of Jesus Christ ...

The Gospels (NT) were Jesus' dispensation of continuing the Father's plan by His becoming our propitiation to the Law's fulfilment, whereas upon His rising from the dead the Father placed all power in His hand and our attentions shifted from the Father and became more focused on Him as our loving Mediator and Savior ... And even tho we know that the Father (our Source) is still calling the shots, God the Son (our Provision) became preminent, but before He left Jesus (our Provision) pointed to another's coming ... the Father had sent Jesus for the continuation of His three part plan for the ages, now Jesus would send us Holy Spirit (our Power) for that same continuance ... What did Christ say ...

John.16:

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.

And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

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

All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

And what did the Disciples/believer's do after Christ's final departure from this earth? ... On the day of Pentecost 120 found themselves in an upper room waiting for Christ's promise of Power from on high, and the Bible tells us "suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance ... Acts.2: 2-4 ... And 3,000 got saved, marking the beginning of the dispensation of God the Power, and the beginning of the Church Age in earnest ...

Did the early Church hold on for dear life to this new found Power as believer's had done with Jesus? ... Did the early Church continually seek after this new found Power as they once had pressed toward Jesus? ... Initially I'd say they did due

to the miracles Holy Spirit was able to work thru those early believers, but eventually that seemed to wane as the original Apostles of Christ were martyred and the early Church had no more physical representatives of the movement birthed by Jesus Christ of Nazareth ... i think the early church soon fell into what so many saints today have totally succumbed to, a total fixation on Jesus (the Provision) at the marginalization of the Father (our Source) and the lamentable near exclusion of Holy Spirit (our Power) as God in His own proper authority ... For an example most Bibles today list erroneously in my view: "The Acts of the Apostles" ... When in fact it is "The Acts of the Holy Spirit" - via the Apostles ... The Apostles didn't utilize the Holy Spirit to the salvation of 3,000, but vice-versa ... No saint has any real power in this dispensation of Holy Spirit's work without realization that He's God with us RIGHT NOW!, has been so since the day of Pentecost, and should be revered as such ...

To many saints refer to Holy Spirit as an "it" or "something" as in the phrase "something told me to go over and witness to that person), when He's a He in the same sense as Father and Son ... He has feelings, and we grieve Him when we as a believer's don't acknowledge Him in His proper authority ... He likes to be talked to, and sought after by any believer who longs to be used of Christ to the lifting Him up as the Lamb of God so that all men should be drawn to Him, because it's impossible for any of us to do so without His power ... Lifting up the Lamb via Christ Church as His instrument, is the Dove's primary reason and responsibility in being here ... But how can we be sensitive to the grief we cause Him when so many of us delegate Him to an "it" or a "something"? ...

We've all got to wake up to God's own divine pattern in the Godhead! ... The Father pointed to Jesus the Son so that He could come here and point us back to His Father ... Jesus came here and pointed to Holy Spirit that He would come here and point us back to Jesus! ... Without our acknowledgement of and surrender to His oversight of us individually and as a collective Body we'll never see miracles wrought thru us, not even the miracle of drawing a multitude to conviction as in the beginning of the Church on Pentecost, for we will have relegated ourselves to, if we've not already come dangerously close to "having a form of Godly devotion but denying the Power (God the Holy Spirit) thereof ...

Many early saints because they were Jews found it easy to believe in the Father because He was the God of their history (by the way which is where a lot of modern believer's place the Father) ... They believed in Jesus for even tho He was now gone He at least had a physical track record of being here so He continued to be their total fixation ... But Holy Spirit came in like an invisible wind (save for His then visible cloven flames), was then and still now is that invisible wind that requires pure faith on which to count on Him as the Guide, and rightful Overseer of our own individual lives, and that of the entire Church, and i think our faith in His capacity as such is why the Church of Christ is so sick ... If we don't even believe in Holy Spirit enough to present our own bodies to Him as His living temple, what chance do we have collectively of housing Him when we get together in our own collective congregations? ... How can we say we truly honor God, who is One in Three, by adoring Father and Son, while discounting Holy Spirit?

Please saints ... If any of you are vague as to just who God the Holy Spirit is, why He's here since the day of Pentecost, and what that means to you as far as indwelling, baptism, filling and gifting ... Then i pray that you will seek out knowledge concerning Him ... You're gonna be surprised of His personality ... If you have a good study Bible (like my Ryrie) go to the back of it and familiarize yourself (looking up the scriptures) with "The Attributes of The Holy Spirit" ... Search the Scripture in His regard and if necessary begin asking questions, for Christ Himself promised that "seekers" in Him would "find" and it's impossible for Him to lie in this regard, and even such finding is in fact a part of Holy Spirit's job ...

1Cor.2

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

If we allow ourselves to become thoroughly acquainted and surrendered to God the Holy Spirit He'll enable us to a much more increasing intimate relationship with God the Son, which will in turn take us to a whole new intimacy level with God

the Father ... This type of intimate relationship requires Power from on high ... The Power of God the Holy Spirit who'll enable us to do ALL THINGS THRU CHRIST JESUS!!!

Re: Why Do We Seem to Treat Holy Spirit with Less Reverence than Jehovah and Jesus? . - posted by philologos (), on:

Rahman

I don't know whether this title is a relic from your personal past or a current misunderstanding, but Jehovah is not the exclusive name of the Father as the JW's teach but the name of God Himself. In that sense the Father is Jehovah, the Son is Jehovah, and the Spirit is Jehovah.

Re: - posted by Rahman, on: 2005/3/24 14:35

Brother Ron you wrote;

"I don't know whether this title is a relic from your personal past or a current misunderstanding, but Jehovah is not the exclusive name of the Father as the JW's teach but the name of God Himself"

Hmmmm ...

i guess i'd have to say "both" in that yes i do have a tendency to refer in my meaning to the Father as Jehovah from my being raised a JW, but also from my subsequent teachings in a Baptist Church where that minister differentiated the Father from the Son by that same name (which was a surprise to me at the time), and sometimes by Yahweh ... And my current Pentecostal pastor also differentiates the Father via the same name ...

i suppose were not blessed yet with anyone as well versed, or studied as you in this regard, but it's sufficed myself and the congregation to be able to distinguish the members of the Godhead when our pastor is teaching us about each one's respective role in His master plan ...

Is there a better title that i can use in reference to the Father? ... If not then if you'll forgive my ignorance i'll just leave Jehovah, and note to anyone reading that in that name i'm only referring to God the Father ...

But more in line with the gist of the thread ...

Brother Ron do you think that God the Holy Spirit is treated with less reverence than the Father and Son? ... If so why? ... If not why? ...

i for one am always interested in what your take is on things ...

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2005/3/24 14:38

Quote:
-----Brother Ron do you think that God the Holy Spirit is treated with less reverence than the Father and Son? ... If so why? ... If not why? ..

I have personally been reading Acts and have realized that the Holy Spirit is mentioned quite a bit in reference to the authority and calling of God. I think it's not worthy to mention and this is a great thread to discuss these things. I don't think that not using the term Jehovah would be reasonable we should not be afraid to use all the titles of God. What exactly does the word Jehovah mean? What is the most common name for God in the Scriptures?

Re:, on: 2005/3/24 14:49

I think today there is actually is so much emphasis on God the Holy Spirit that it tends to overshadow God the Son. I've been in some Charismatic services where Jesus name was mentioned in a few of the worship songs, but everything was focussed on the "moving of the Holy Spirit". Christ got lost! But the Holy Spirit will always point toward CHRIST... not the other way around.

Thats not to say that the Holy Spirit isnt important, of course He is. But if you find yourself in an environment where it's all about the Holy Spirit, and hardly about Christ at all... chances are, He aint there.

Krispy

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/3/24 15:06

Quote:
-----Is there a better title that i can use in reference to the Father? ... If not then if you'll forgive my ignorance i'll just leave Jehovah, and note to anyone reading that in that name i'm only refering to God the Father ...

To attribute the name of Jehovah to the Father only is to disrupt the Trinity. It is not just a question of labels but of basic Christian doctrine. Jehovah was the name by which God revealed Himself to the people of Israel. Jesus is the name by which God has revealed Himself to the world.

If you have read my recent Abraham studies you will know that the One sent by the Father to find a Bride for the Son is anonymous. It is the Spirit's work to exalt the Son. Although we must give due reverence to the Father and the Spirit; the Father and the Spirit have conspired to lift the name of Jesus higher than any name "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;" (Phi 2:9-10 KJV)

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/3/24 15:15

Quote:
-----I don't think that not using the term jehovah would be reasonable we should not be afraid to us all the titles of God. What exactly does the word Jehovah mean? What is the most common name for God in the Scriptures?

Greg, as I have just commented in my last post, it is not appropriate to refer to the Father as Jehovah to distinguish Him from the Son; this is what the JW's do.

It would have been perfectly possible to transliterate Jehovah into Greek letters, but the NT never uses the name Jehovah, and this is, in my view, not an accident. The revelation of the character of God as Jehovah was primarily to the people of Israel. He was the God of Covenant. Now we have a 'new' covenant and the revelation of the character of God is now fully revealed in the name of Jesus, which means everything that Jehovah meant but adds 'Saviour' to the revelation.

I think I have said this before, but I delight in explaining to Jehovah's Witnesses why I am a "Jesus' Witness" and not a "Jehovah's Witness", and it has to do with the coming of the Spirit. "you will receive the power of the Spirit coming upon you and you shall be witnesses to Me..." Only the personal empowering of the Spirit can make a man or a woman a "Jesus' Witness". "Jehovah's Witnesses", denying the person of the HOLY Spirit, can never be "Jesus' Witnesses".

Re: Why Do We Seem to Treat Holy Spirit with Less Reverence than Jehovah and Jesus? . - posted by Rahman, on: 2005/3/24 15:15

Brother Ron ...

You wrote;
"To attribute the name of Jehovah to the Father only is to disrupt the Trinity".

Again i ask ... What can i change the title of the thread to that will clear it for the question of the thread?

Should i write YHWH? ... Or if i put "the Father" will that afford me your clearance?

i admit you're the scholar ... please tell me ... :-(

Re: Why Do We Seem to Treat Holy Spirit with Less Reverence than Jehovah and Jesus? . - posted by Rahman, on: 2005/3/24 15:42

Krispy,

Do you generally attend services closer to any single denomination or do you visit other denoms to see how they worship? ... i love to visit different denominations, and also cross culturally in different denominations ... i've been in loud raucous worship services where the organ and the emotionalism was the power present, and in the quiet services of a teacher where the presence of the Spirit was so thick it seemed i could almost reach out and touch Him ...

i too have been in such services as you speak of and i tend to vacate them pretty quickly because you're right, Christ said,

"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you" ...

Nowhere are we told to replace Holy Spirit with Christ ... Those services are to the extreme and seem to me more interested in the gifts of Holy Spirit (what they can get from Him for show), as opposed to a complete surrender to the Spirit of God in His conforming them more to the image of Christ, and His empowerment of them toward lifting up the Lamb ... What i have found is that surrender to Holy Spirit not only increases my clarity as to the worthiness of the Lamb, but also makes me bolder in my witness of the Lamb ... Also my praise, worship and adoration is so much more greatly enhanced and clear in surrender to Holy Spirit's rightful leadership of me, presenting and keeping my body as His sacrificial temple, for in worship i get filled up so quickly just thinking about the goodness and mercy of our Lord ...

Then on the other extreme i've been to many dead churches where the only wind that seemed to be stirring was that blown from the ventilators, and have wondered how does this church survive? ... But i've come to see that some churches are nothing more than social clubs, and some high class dens for intellectuals with no warmth in their hearts and no fire in their bellies ... But in my own more immediate circle of churches i attend the thing that seems to stick out to me a lot is the fact that the saints have no power ... Plenty of johnny on the spot emotionalism, but no power of the Holy Ghost to sustain them much past that ... And i've noticed that so many of those saints refer to Holy Spirit as "it" ... i could be wrong, but i think that's telling ...

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/3/24 15:42

e-sword gives these answers to the question which is the most common name for God...

Elohim: 2601 'hits'
Jehovah: 6521 'hits'
Adonai: 438 'hits'

In the KJV where the word 'LORD' or 'GOD' is all in upper case it signifies that the Hebrew word is JHWH or Jehovah.

The four letters of God's Name are JHWH, almost certainly pronounced with hard aspirates; YAHWEH. The original vowels were not in the written Hebrew language. The Jews wanting to prevent over familiarisation with the proper name JHWH hit on the idea of pronouncing the name in code. They took the vowels from Adonai, which means Lord and interspersed them with the four holy letters of God's proper name; hence Jahowai, which in English has become Jehovah. The Samaritans did not share the Jews' reluctance to pronounce the sacred name and to this day, as I understand, have kept the historic pronunciation of 'Yahweh'.

Yahweh seems to be linked to the verb for 'being' or 'existing'. He is the 'always-am'. I tried to express some of these wonders a little time ago in a few thoughts on John 1; you can read them here.

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/3/24 15:44

Quote:

-----Again i ask ... What can i change the title of the thread to that will clear it for the question of the thread?

The classic orthodox designation has always been... the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Each person in the godhead may have separate titles attributed in the Scripture, but JHWH/Jehovah is the name of God.

Re: Why Do We Seem to Treat Holy Spirit with Less Reverence than the Father and the S - posted by Rahman, on: 2005/3/24 15:44

Ok brother Ron,

i've changed it to "the Father" and "the Son" in the title, and also in the initial following text ...

You'd already banished me to my prayer closet, and i was getting just a little bit concerned as to where you might banish me next! ... :-P

All in Christ love tho ...

Br. R

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/3/24 20:42

Quote:

-----Thats not to say that the Holy Spirit isnt important, of course He is. But if you find yourself in an environment where it's all about the Holy Spirit, and hardly about Christ at all... chances are, He aint there.

well the constant mention of Jesus is not necessarily evidence of His presence either. I feel that if the Holy spirit is truly here then so are all three.

Re: Why Do We Seem to Treat Holy Spirit with Less Reverence than the Father and the S - posted by Sentry (), on: 2005/3/24 20:42

I think that the Holy Spirit is overlooked a lot.

I'm not talking about speaking in tounges or a feeling either.

I'm talking about HIM.

He is not an "IT". Yet we say...Have you got it?

He is not a Dove.

He is not wind, nor fire, nor water, or any other substance.

He is a person.

He is the third part of the Godhead.

He is the triune God.

He IS GOD.

Just my thoughts.. :-)

Where's the problem - posted by dohzman (), on: 2005/3/25 2:32

I think basically most don't see the moving or giftings or manifestations of the Holy Spirit because of a lack of faith---You very seldom hear of the resurrection Of Jesus and yet Paul said that's where the manifest power was --in the preaching of the resurrection of Christ.Gal- says faith worketh by love(in connection with mircles) Jesus said in the last days the love of many would grow cold(because of offenses)--Love is the fuse lit that causes the dynamic of faith to explode in what outwardly appears to be a spontaneous manifestation of God's power(however the power was already ordained in a time of prayer with an open and honest heart before God). It was Smith Wigglesworth who used to sing a song that went like this : "No prayer no power, little prayer little power, much prayer much power". I see the vast majority of christians not settled in thier hearts that Jesus is really God. That's why such prayerlessness and because the resurrection isn't preached from most pulpits the Holy Spirit can't bring a conviction of the eternal nature of Christ as God as easily.

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/3/25 2:42

Quote:

-----He is the third part of the Godhead.

Sentry, I am not acting as the 'thought police' on this topic, but the nature of God is so important that I want to point out that 'technically', God, who is One, does not have parts. Jesus was not part God and part man, but fully God and man at the same time. The usual phrase is the Third Person of the Triune God. The 'triune God' is usually expressed as the Trinity.

Re: - posted by Sentry (), on: 2005/3/25 7:52

Yes I agree.

Well said.

Was typing fast. :-)

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/3/26 11:08

Quote:

-----I am not acting as the 'thought police' on this topic

:-P

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/3/26 11:22

It seems to me we want all the benefits of being in Christ or just one, getting into heaven. Very few of us want to get involved in the work which God has for us. We want to get into heaven and just be there, no crowns or rewards just getting in is cool. We are either unwilling (lazy, preferring to sit thumb in butt doing nothing) or unwilling, (don't care to do anything at all). No fire or desire to serve God so in effect, no need for the Holy spirit.

I don't know why we would be content to just get into heaven, that's just the bare minimum. God didn't make us just to save us, He has much bigger plan for us and we have to want to get involved with that. The work which God has for us is a demonstration of the wisdom of God for all creation, want to get involved? Seek the Spirit and be more than you think you can be.

Re: maybe - posted by Compton (), on: 2005/3/26 16:34

Quote:

-----We are either unwilling (lazy, preferring to sit thumb in butt doing nothing) or unwilling, (don't care to do anything at all).

I hear this alot. I'm not so sure this really is the problem. One thing I've learned from managing people is that most of us want to do a good job. Now and then someone is truly lazy, but I more often then not problem is not usually a lack of cha racter.

Strong initiative and commitment from the members of an organization is usually hindered by systemic flaws. The mana gement and organizational leadership are unwittingly blocking participation.

For instance our church culture may have developed hundreds of years ago when churches were more of a community hub, where people would come in and listen to the strong recognized authority of the pastor. Today that is no longer the case, but churches are still formatted the same way. So a Christian may be sincere and zealous to serve God but the on ly jobs the church seem to offer are working the soundboard or being an usher. So the Christian now has to look for Chri stian service outside of his church in a parachurch ministry or as an individual. This means being a part of two Christian organizations and additional time away from his family.

Meanwhile back at the Church the pastor who has a full time job maintaining the church is frustrated because all of his p eople seem so lazy. He has lost touch with people who work 40-60 hours a week. He exhausts all of thier available time with meetings. He fails to notice that most of the laypeople spend all of their free time serving his agenda, while he as th e pastor, spends all of his free time on himself.

In this scenario, everyone is frustrated with everyone else's lack of productivity. The irony is that everyone is too busy to even find time for prayer or reading thier bibles.

It is my belief that if leadership would reformatt the church from a "sitting" or stationary community, centered on "microph one ministries", to a mobile community, centered on "mercy ministries" with ready made opportunities for reaching the lo st that Christians would line up around the block to participate. I don't think this will happen because of several intrinsic c hallenges to such a decentralized community that are contrary to how we view church.

Of course I am being simplistic. Not every church neatly fits my description. Clearly it is most imperitive that we pray and read our bibles. There can't be any light without oil in the lamp. That being the case, I think that a big part of the reason why Christians seem so unproductive for God is a systemic flaw: our churches are designed for sitting. They are designe d for meetings, not encounters.

What you guys think?

MC

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/3/26 22:07

Compton

I was talking about work in terms of the spiritual work. While we may do all these things at church etc if we are not at wor k in the spirit, we are doing nothing. I'm saying we are lazy concerning the spirit and the work in the spirit.

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/3/28 4:17

Quote:

-----I'm saying we are lazy concerning the spirit and the work in the spirit.

Can you explain what you mean by that?

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/3/30 21:31

Quote:

-----Can you explain what you mean by that?

I mean how often to we pause and let the Holy spirit pray for us or do whatever He needs to do in us and through us? When we pray all too often it's something that comes into our heads and when we do thing "for God" too often it's because we think this is what God wants when it may not be. It seems we'd much rather stay close to shore, you know being open only to things that are comfortable, or make sense rather than going out into the deep with God. We like to hear stories of God moving and providing things in the flesh, which is all good really but that's milk and at some point we need to be eating meat. We need to be more interested (now more than ever coz of what is about to happen) in the spiritual workings of God. That's what we need to start chasing after more and more, and/or more actively than we do now. does that help Ron?

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/3/30 21:39

God wants us to worship Him in spirit and in truth, should we not therefore seek the spiritual things of God that much more fervently? Are we afraid of what we may not be able to explain to people (who then think we are psycho or heretics) or don't we want to worship God in spirit and truth?

Re: ????? - posted by dohzman (), on: 2005/3/30 22:26

I hear many christians bat around things like worship , serve the lord , get involved ect...but most don't have any idea what is being said. Rom 12 : 1 Gives us an idea what true worship is. In the church I don't believe people are basically lazy , I believe they are too busy in thier lives. To the churches you're only a true christian if you are "johnny on the spot" to do for the church---i.e.>the organized church in a bldg. Thats not at all what Jesus meant when he talked to the Samaritan woman in Jn 4. All our deeds of righteousness should come out of a heart of love and worship and therefore though every deeds are an act of worship. Life and this world system and sin and satan all work to kill our love which is the key ingredient to activating our faith which we need in order to do deeds of righteousness, the inward knowledge that we're pleasing to God, we love God because he first loved us? is usually enough motivation to keep us moving forward toward the heavenly city, and without faith it is impossible to please God. Most of my ministry is spent getting professing christians free from the snares and devices of satan, the flesh, the worldly lusts. It's a tough road to walk.

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/3/30 23:59

Quote:

-----All our deeds of righteousness should come out of a heart of love and worship and therefore though every deeds are an act of worship. Life and this world system and sin and satan all work to kill our love which is the key ingredient to activating our faith which we need in order to do deeds of righteousness, the inward knowledge that we're pleasing to God, we love God because he first loved us? is usually enough motivation to keep us moving forward toward the heavenly city, and without faith it is impossible to please God. Most of my ministry is spent getting professing christians free from the snares and devices of satan, the flesh, the worldly lusts. It's a tough road to walk.

Our hearts are corruptible and they can be very deceptive.

14 For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin. 15 For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate. 16 But if I do the very thing I do not want to do, I agree with the Law, confessing that the Law is good. 17 So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. 18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good is not. 19 For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want. 20 But if I am doing the very thing I do not want, I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. 21 I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. 22 For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man, 23 but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members. 24 Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.

So our hearts should not be the source of our good works. The works that come purely from there are for self-glorification because they are not born of the spirit of God. No good thing resides in us, the only goodness we can know is that which we put on in Christ which comes by the spirit of God.

9 For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, 10 so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might. for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; 12 joyously 13

The only way to walk in a manner worthy of God is by His own grace coz we can't do it. By the Holy Spirit we may know His will for us and fulfilling that in all things is what is pleasing to God.

I think people are lazy as far as seeking the spirit of God, not lazy altogether. Being busy shows that we are capable of work, we just need to redirect our efforts in the direction God would have us go.

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/3/31 2:34

Quote:
-----So our hearts should not be the source of our good works. The works that come purely from there are for self-glorification because they are not born of the spirit of God. No good thing resides in us, the only goodness we can know is that which we put on in Christ which comes by the spirit of God.

Is this the old heart or the new one?

Re: after being born of the spirit - posted by dohzman (), on: 2005/3/31 3:34

Once we are born of God's Spirit He puts desires into our hearts. In this western culture we Christians are so afraid of our emotions that we shut down everything and move legalistically in the arm of flesh. Jesus was moved with compassion, or had compassion. Our "feelings" can trick us sometimes but that's where the word of God comes in and the renewing of our minds. Next time you get a chance try standing in front of a congregation of believers and tell them they are lazy Christians. I dare say there will be some little old ladies in the congregation who have had and still do have a much closer walk with Jesus than most of us can even imagine or even attain to. And in your quote you need to remember that Romans Chapter 8 follows Romans Chapter 7---- we aren't left hanging in chapter 7! We are a NEW CREATION IN CHRIST JESUS the old has passed away all things are become new. The word of God declares that even as Christ was we are.

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/3/31 15:40

Quote:
-----Is this the old heart or the new one?

we receive a new heart in Christ and it must be kept in constant communion with Him lest the enemy leads us back into our old ways. We can't just say we have a new heart and leave it at that, we have to learn to desire Christ and the things of Christ because all we have desired before that point are things of the enemy. We have to let Him teach us to desire Him coz we don't know how.

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/3/31 16:49

Quote:
-----we receive a new heart in Christ and it must be kept in constant communion with Him lest the enemy leads us back into our old ways.

So are you saying the new heart can become an old heart again? and then a new heart again? and then an old.... Does n't sound much like uttermost salvation does it? :-?

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/3/31 17:44

Quote:
-----So are you saying the new heart can become an old heart again? and then a new heart again? and then an old.... Doesn't sound much like uttermost salvation does it?

You know Ron it doesn't. But what does it mean to be saved and to be born again in the spirit if we do not follow the lead of the spirit? I for one have been saved for 6 years and in those 6 years I have done little or nothing that has been inspired by the spirit of God. That's 6 yrs that could have been better spent. I'm sure there are many others out there in the same place I was. God does not save us for us to sit on our butts but so that we can work for Him, the only way to do that is by being instructed by the Spirit, the only way to do that is to actively seek the spirit.

Ok this is what I'm saying, or rather what God showed me earlier right after the last post. We are born again of the Spirit and we must therefore continue on in the spirit. This means ACTIVELY seeking the spirit which will communicate to us the will of the father. When we do the will of the father He is glorified and pleased with us and we have walked in the spirit. We can't just say that ok I have a new heart and that's the end of it, we have to let God use the spirit to His glory. My feeling is that if we had been seeking the spirit of God and following His instruction God would not be so angry with us so clearly we have been lazy in that regard.

People God is angry and the judgement is imminent and we all have to start seeking the spirit of God actively so He can lead us through what is about to come.

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/3/31 17:50

brethren, if we are not walking in the spirit, we are walking in the flesh, there is no inbetween so let us be sure to always walk in the spirit.

Re: walking in the spirit - posted by dohzman (), on: 2005/3/31 18:13

What exactly is your definition of walking in the spirit?

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/3/31 18:37

walking in the spirit is walking every step as instructed by the spirit. It's not my definition, I could define walking in the spirit all kinds of ways but what God showed me is that walking in the spirit is just that. It doesn't matter what I think it means, what matters is God's definition of it. There is no simplifying it, no better way to put it. The definition of it is simple, carrying out that task is another matter altogether. I'm not saying that I have figured it out by any means but like Paul, I'm pressing on toward that goal.

Re: Why Do We Seem to Treat Holy Spirit with Less Reverence than the Father and the S - posted by Rahman, on: 2005/3/31 18:44

Greetings saints! ...

My most simplistic explanation for my own walking in the Spirit is when I'm denying myself to the benefit of what Christ by His Word, and Holy Spirit would have me do, and even further towards the mark of where such denial ceases to be the thought process that it often times is and becomes almost first nature to me ... I say almost because even though I know I have a new nature, and I'm getting ever better at operating out of it, it's impossible for me to be 100% perfect in this imperfect shell and so I've got to be ever mindful of my old nature ... But like Paul said, walking in the Spirit (to me) is in essence becoming dead in old self and alive in Christ operating thru new self, by the power and leading of Holy Spirit ... Becoming transformed and renewed in actions and particularly reactions ...

I found this on line and it seems to have a few good points on ...

What Does It Mean To 'Walk In The Spirit'?

Gal 5:16, 25, and 6:1-2

What does it mean to 'walk in the spirit'?

For one thing, it is not just nice religious terminology. It does not describe some eerie, intangible, heightened state of spirituality. To the contrary, the Spirit-filled life is full of substance. It is a real, tangible, down-to-earth life, the way Jesus was down-to-earth. In fact, it is the only real life.

The Spirit-filled life is nothing less than the Christ-filled life. The Spirit-filled Christian is one who, according to Romans 6:11, considers himself dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus. In a very real sense, the Christian gives up his life, his spiritual impotence, defeat, and fruitlessness for the power and victory of Jesus Christ. This is what the great missionary statesman Hudson Taylor referred to as the "exchanged life."

When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we are filled with Jesus Christ. We no longer think of Christ as One who helps us do some kind of Christian task but, rather, Jesus Christ does the work in and through us. Christ does not want us to work for Him. He wants us to let Him do His work in and through us. This is the glorious experience that the apostle Paul knew, as he described in Galatians 2:20, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me."

Our body now becomes Christ's body to use as He wills; our mind becomes His mind to think His thoughts; our will is now controlled by His will; our total personality, time, and talents are now completely His. Eugene Peterson puts it a little more clearly in *The Message* when he writes "Since this is the kind of life we have chosen, the life of the Spirit, let us make sure that we do not just hold it as an idea in our heads or a sentiment in our hearts, but work out its implication in every detail of our lives."

Can it be done? Can our faith influence 'every detail of our lives'? Or is that just Paul doing a bunch of 'preacher talk' that sounds good on Sunday morning, but really isn't possible? I don't think any of us really think that, but if he really intends for us to do so, how in the world do we do it?!

Here in this letter to the believers in Galatia Paul gives us some practical guidelines that will help us do just that, 'walk in the Spirit', in our daily living:

'Walking in the Spirit' means we must

1. Live in humility – v. 26 "Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other."

If our faith is to have any practical influence in the world around us, it must first influence the way we treat those around us! Maybe one of the biggest problems believers have is the sin of pride! Proud that we go to church, proud that we do not get drunk or cheat on our spouse, proud that we are middle class and respectable, etc. But there is no way around it: There is no way we can be full of God's spirit and walk in God's spirit when we are full of self and walking in our own paths and in our own strength!

read v. 26 - Paul says we must specifically guard against becoming conceited or having bad attitudes toward others. We think we are above this kind of thing, but the truth is there are times we think we are better than some around us who are not as successful or respectable or as educated we are. We do become critical of some around us who do not agree with us and who threaten our opinion of ourselves! And occasionally we do act tacky and can be unkind to those around us who have been unkind to us.

read v. 24 "Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires." Walking in the spirit means understanding that we must die to self! In regard to faith it means "He must increase, but I must decrease" and in regard to others it means that in daily relationships we are expected to live out the challenge "in love preferring one another".

'Walking in the Spirit' means we:

2. Live in service to one another – v. 2 "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

When you look at Jesus' life and what made people love Him, what 1 or 2 characteristics stand out?

To me:

Jesus loved people unconditionally. Second characteristic was that Jesus served others.

He was not too proud to stoop to wash feet, help a sick Gentile woman who had no one to turn to. Jesus even said His whole purpose for coming to earth was "not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many". (Matthew 20:28) Jesus told a parable of a man who was traveling from Jericho to Jerusalem who fell among thieves. You are familiar with the details—

Paul reminds us in v. 2 that 'walking in the Spirit' includes service to others. Because if we are walking in the Spirit, if we are being the presence of Christ in our world, then we will do the things Jesus would do if he were walking where we are walking!

We all have two kinds of spirit within us which are constantly battling for control of our lives. One will win and one will lose. The one that wins is always the one we feed the most! Whether you and I live a consistent, Spirit-filled life is determined by the frequency with which we say "yes" to the leading of the Spirit and "no" to the temptations of the flesh.

How do we get started on the road of 'walking in the spirit'? Take the first step!
Make a fresh and new commitment to living under God's control.

- Humble yourself before God and others.
- Make yourself accountable,
- and serve others.

Re: Just another question? - posted by dohzman (), on: 2005/3/31 21:13

Since Jesus said his word was spirit and was truth what do you think walking in the spirit is? He also said if you love him keep his commands, The Apostle John said his commands weren't grievous. So what is walking in the spirit?

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/4/1 0:17

bro dohzman
you did get the reply to that question on the other thread right?

Re: Why Do We Seem to Treat Holy Spirit with Less Reverence than the Father and the S - posted by Rahman, on: 2005

(The Mission and Ministry of the Holy Spirit) Walking in the Spirit

by David Wilkerson

1 Corinthians 12 <https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/mydownloads/singlefile.php?lid=4424>