

# Jesus

The Holy Spirit


# Summary (so far)

- Occam's Razor
- The spiritual is the real, the natural is the shadow
- The "real" creation is Christ's creation
- God is not mechanical but loving, sane, kind, etc.
- Jesus was "the word"; meaning he was the embodiment of what God was trying say
  - Love me, trust me, obey me, etc.



# The Genesis Connection

- Gen 1:1-2 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.
- God's breath (*pneuma*) or spirit was breathed into man to give them life



## The Holy Spirit according to many Christadelphians

- Not the third person of the Trinity
- The power of God
- The gifts of the spirit were a specific manifestation of God's power and went away in the first century
- God's power is always active, but the gifts are not active today

# The Holy Spirit = God's Power & Life-giving force

- Joh 3:34-35 (NIV) For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God gives the Spirit without limit. The Father loves the Son and has placed everything in his hands.
- Mat 28:18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."
- Ps. 8:5,6 NIV: You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet.

# The Holy Spirit = God's Power & Life-giving force

- 1Co\_15:45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.
- ESV: Thus it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.
  - A comparison and contrast.
    - Adam was given life.
    - Jesus gives life.

# Hypothesis

- Just as Jesus is the reality or substance of God's word, light, etc., Jesus is the ultimate manifestation of God's life-giving power or spirit.
- Just as Jesus is called "the word" to emphasize as "God's ultimate communication", Jesus is also called the Holy Spirit as the ultimate manifestation of God's power.
- No Trinitarian implications whatsoever

# Jesus is the Holy Spirit

- Joh 14:26 *But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*
- 1John 2:1 *My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:*
  - Both are Gr. *Paraklete*



- **2 Cor. 3:12-18** - *Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.*
- **2Co 4:5** *For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.*

- Rom. 8:9-11 *You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.*



# Anti-Trinitarian Argument

- The old argument is “The Holy Spirit in the New Testament is personified as a person”
- The simpler argument is that Jesus is the Holy Spirit (not as a triune God, but as the ultimate manifestation of God’s power)

## **The Holy Spirit (Jesus) has a mind:**

- *1Co 2:10-16 these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. "For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.*

# The Holy Spirit (Jesus) has a mind:

- Rom 8:26-27 *Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.*

# The Holy Spirit (Jesus) has feelings:

- He can be grieved (Ephesians 4:30)
  - *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*
- He can be insulted (Hebrews 10:29)
  - *How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace?*
- He can think things are good (Acts 15:28)
  - *For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements:*

# The Holy Spirit (Jesus) has a will:

- He chooses to give gifts to some (1 Cor 12:11)
  - *All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.*
- He directs activities (Acts 16:6-7)
  - *And they went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. And when they had come up to Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them.*

## **The Holy Spirit (Jesus) interacts with people:**

- The Holy Spirit speaks (Acts 10:19; 13:2; Hebrews 3:7, Revelation 22:17; John 16:13; Romans 8:26-27; Matthew 10:20; Mark 13:11)
- He speaks directly, person to person (Acts 10:19-21)
  - *And while Peter was pondering the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are looking for you. Rise and go down and accompany them without hesitation, for I have sent them." And Peter went down to the men and said, "I am the one you are looking for. What is the reason for your coming?"*
- He can be lied to (Acts 5:3)
  - *But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land?"*



# The Gifts of the Spirit vs. the Holy Spirit

- Gifts of the Holy Spirit are gifts of miraculous power from Jesus
  - 1Co 12:27-30 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

# Spirit Word?

- Popular to insert “spirit word” (*logos pneuma* for *pneuma*) into verses saying spirit
- Implication is spirit = Bible
- Problems
  - Violates the command not to alter the Scriptures
  - Suggests Bible study is the life giver, not Jesus
  - Makes certain interpretations very complicated and non-sensical

# Occam's Razor

- Gal 5:16-26 ESV But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.



# Is the Holy Spirit at work today?

- Key to distinguish between the gifts and the power of God directed by Christ

# Jesus as Spirit Implications

- Jesus has God's power without measure
- He rules over "all things" (except his Father)
- He doesn't need to ask his Father for anything in an intercessory capacity
- Referring to Jesus as "the Spirit" puts emphasis on this life-giving power just as calling him "the Word" puts emphasis on his message
- We might be more comfortable with the idea of Jesus in us vs. the idea of the spirit in us



# Conclusion

- Jesus is referred to as the Holy Spirit or Spirit in the New Testament
- Jesus is the ultimate manifestation or the reality of God's life-giving power
- This understanding makes exposition of many verses much simpler (Occam's Razor)
- God gave us life through His spirit in Genesis, but gives us real life through his Spirit (Jesus).