



Fundamentos

LESSON 45

Foundations Curriculum

The Holy Spirit Is God

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Introduction

The Holy Spirit Is God

In this forty-fifth lesson, we will learn that the Holy Spirit is God. We will dwell on what the Scriptures say about Him, who is a person with whom we can relate.

We live in a time when everything is relative and questionable. Fundamental truths have come under every kind of attack. I believe all the brothers and sisters have been able to see how we have sought to make clear who Jesus is and the work He accomplished. We have done this because we want to cooperate with God so that the church may return to the foundations established by the apostles.

When I speak of returning to the foundations established by the apostles, a word of Greek origin comes to mind: “orthodox.” I want to focus only and solely on its basic meaning, setting aside all the misunderstandings regarding its application and the pejorative uses of the term connected with fanaticism.

The word orthodox comes from the fusion of two Greek words. The first, *orthos*, means straight, or right. The second, *doxa*, means opinion, conviction — in a certain sense, someone's faith. In this way, it would be a straight, right faith, one that does not evolve, that does not adapt, and that admits no new principles or new ideas.

Taking this meaning as our basis, we, as the church, need to become orthodox again: to have a right faith, one that does not evolve, does not adapt, and admits no new principles or new ideas. We must hold to what those holy apostles taught.

Today, as we begin this teaching on the person of the Holy Spirit, our goal is to make clear what the Scriptures say about Him. We also want, just as we did with the person of Jesus, to expose the deviations already known and practiced. He is not, as some teach, “God's active force.” He is God, and He is also a person with whom we can relate.

Let us fill our minds and our faith with clear texts, and I want, deliberately, to comment as little as possible, because I believe these texts will speak for themselves.

1) The Holy Spirit Is God

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. (...) Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness."

Genesis 1:1–2, 26 (NKJV)

He is God, for He is the Spirit of God. What a blessed redundancy! He was in the beginning and took part in the creation of all things, including the creation of man. He is known in the Scriptures of the Old Testament by the expressions Spirit of God or Spirit of the Lord. Every time you see these expressions, they are, of course, referring to the Holy Spirit of the Lord.

Let us mention some attributes of God that also belong to the Holy Spirit, for they are one. Further ahead, we will return to this theme in a more specific way.

a) He Is Omnipresent

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?

Psalms 139:7

The Holy Spirit of God is everywhere. We cannot hide from Him. He is God, and He is omnipresent.

b) He Is Omnipotent

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, Measured heaven with a span And calculated the dust of the earth in a measure? Weighed the mountains in scales And the hills in a balance? Who has directed the Spirit of the Lord, Or as His counselor has taught Him? With whom did He take counsel, and who instructed Him, And taught Him in the path of justice? Who taught Him knowledge, And showed Him the way of understanding?

Isaiah 40:12–14

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has become His counselor? Or who has first given to Him and it shall be repaid to him? For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

Romans 11:33–36

Jesus said that He is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father (John 15:26). He is the source of truth; He reveals the truth.

c) To Lie to the Holy Spirit Is the Same as Lying to God

But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."

Acts 5:3–4

d) He Is Called Lord

Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

2 Corinthians 3:17

e) He Is Omniscient

But 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.

1 Corinthians 2:10–11

This Holy Spirit is omniscient; He knows all things. He knows the mind of God, the deep things of God, because He is God.

2) The Holy Spirit Is a Person

As stated at the outset, He is not "God's active force." If that were so, He could not do all these things. He is God, but He is also a person, for He is capable of speaking, thinking, feeling, and acting. We know that the Father and the Son also possess these characteristics. Let us see what the Scriptures say concerning the Holy Spirit.

a) The Holy Spirit Teaches and Brings to Remembrance

...the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

John 14:26

When we are preaching, sharing with one another, and the Word of God comes to our mind, it is the Holy Spirit who reminds us. We may even have a good memory, but it is the Holy Spirit who brings the Word of God to our remembrance.

When we are ministering, teaching, it is not our own skills or our teaching method that will teach, but the Holy Spirit who teaches. He uses us, because this is one of His characteristics. As a person, He teaches.

These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

1 Corinthians 2:13

The words we speak are not the result of human wisdom, but are taught by the Holy Spirit.

b) The Holy Spirit Speaks

Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot."

Acts 8:29

The Holy Spirit was there with him. He was directing, guiding Philip, and at a given moment He addresses him, as a person, as a friend, as brothers and sisters do with us — He addresses Philip and clearly tells him what He wants him to do: "Go near and overtake this chariot."

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

Once again we say: He is not an "active force," He is not a "specter." He is a person who lives in us, who clothed us with power to preach, and who continues with us, at our side. We are His co-workers, and He guides us in the work, directs us, brings revelation, and clearly speaks His will.

c) The Holy Spirit Makes Decisions

For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things.

Acts 15:28

It seemed good to the Holy Spirit. He was there, together with those brothers, and led them to make a decision, deciding together with them. He takes part in the decision and states what should be done, to the point that the apostles could say that "it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to them not to lay upon them any greater burden than these necessary things."

d) The Holy Spirit Can Be Grieved

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Ephesians 4:30

You know that friend who, at some point, because of some circumstance in our relationship, is grieved by something we do? Well, the Holy Spirit is a friend who lives within us, and at times, throughout our lives, we too can grieve Him. This happens when we sin, going against His will. He has feelings; He can be grieved.

e) He Has a Will

Because He has a will, He can prevent human plans, as well as distribute gifts according to His own desire.

Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them.

Acts 16:6–7

It is important to say that the will of the Holy Spirit is always in complete and absolute unity with the Father and the Son.

For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.

1 John 5:7

Yes, He has a will, but His will is in complete unity with the Father and the Son.

We need to clarify that when the Scriptures, in the New Testament, mention the expression “Spirit of Jesus” or “Spirit of Christ,” they are referring to the Holy Spirit.

But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

1 Corinthians 12:11

This same Spirit works all these things, distributing them as He pleases. He distributes His gifts to each one individually, according to His own will.

God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will.

Hebrews 2:4

f) He Intercedes for Us

This reveals His mission as the Spirit whom Jesus said He would send us. Although it is a characteristic of His own, it reveals His mission and that He is a person.

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Romans 8:26

In those moments when human words seem to make no sense, He helps us. When we are praying and cannot express in words a burden that comes upon the heart, the Holy Spirit helps us in that weakness. He comes to our aid in our limitations, even with groanings which cannot be uttered.

g) He Is the Other Helper

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever.

John 14:16

Jesus uses the expression “another Helper.” Although the Holy Spirit is another person, He is of the same kind and nature. We can say that He is another one like Jesus. He is the same, because He is always in unity. He is the Spirit of God, He is the Spirit of Jesus, the Spirit of Christ. He is the Holy Spirit, with whom you and I can relate.

CONCLUSION

In this forty-fifth lesson, we learned that the Holy Spirit is God and that He is a person with whom we can relate. He is not, as some say, "God's active force." We saw that He possesses the same attributes as God, and that, as a person, He is capable of speaking, thinking, feeling, and acting. What joy it is that we can relate to Him!

CONSIDER CAREFULLY

- 01 What are the other expressions used for the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament?
- 02 In light of the texts presented, what divine attributes can we find in the Holy Spirit?
- 03 What characteristics do we find in the Holy Spirit that show that He is a person?
- 04 What are the other expressions used for the Holy Spirit in the New Testament?

*having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone.*

Ephesians 2:20 (NKJV)

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