

## **The Holy Spirit (II)**

A detailed study of the Holy Spirit is important since the Scriptures say so much about Him. It is often the case that men have a tendency to swing from one extreme to another. They often emphasize one subject to the neglect of others. Over the last 300 years this had been observed with a study of the Godhead. During the 18<sup>th</sup> century great emphasis was put on the study of God the Father with little being studied and written on Christ and the Holy Spirit. This gave a greater understanding of and appreciation for the Father. A great deal of truth was brought to light but doubtlessly a considerable amount of error was taught, as well. During the 19<sup>th</sup> century religious scholars placed much emphasis on the Son of God. This resulted in a greater appreciation and understanding for Christ and His work. But, as was true of the subject of the Father, many false doctrines were taught, as well. During the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and now even at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup>, teachers have had much to say about the work and nature of the Holy Spirit, as well. We must always seek to present balanced views of Biblical information, and not lean toward any extremes. The nature, personality, work and other aspects of the Godhead ought to be diligently studied and faithfully presented. (Boles) We all should hunger and thirst for what the Word says about the work of the Spirit (I Peter 4:11). The Word is all-sufficient to provide for us all we need to know about the Holy Spirit and any other subject of eternal importance (II Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:3; II John 9-11, Revelation 22: 18-19; I Corinthians 4:6; Galatians 1:6-11; II Corinthians 2:17). Please look up and read all of these verses. Therefore, the only way we can know the truth about the Holy Spirit (or any other spiritual subject) is through a diligent, comprehensive, and incisive study of the Bible. What we may think or feel about the subject may be wrong; what has been handed down to us from our parents or religious teachers may not be right; only by consulting the Bible, and letting it establish our beliefs, can we be sure of being right. Thus, it is to the Scriptures we turn for instruction on this vital topic! (Winton)

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