

The Holy Spirit VII

In our last article, the point was made that the Holy Spirit does nothing directly on the heart of the alien sinner. Most of our brethren have held to this truth for many years. The reason being, IT IS THE TRUTH. Our Brethren holding to this position is not what makes it truth. It is inherently so. It is sad to see that some members of the church have drifted from this truth and have now embraced a “direct operation of the Spirit on the heart of an alien sinner”, position. This is nothing more than Calvinism! Now, brethren who have been historically sound and solid in the one Faith are saying that while the Holy Spirit does not operate directly on the hearts of alien sinners, he does do so on the hearts of the saints. It will be interesting to see if and/or when these brethren will not limit the Spirit’s direct operation and will extend it to the hearts of the alien sinner. The undeniable fact is this, any doctrine that lessens the effectiveness of and denies the all-sufficiency of the Word of God, is a false, soul damning doctrine. The saint’s heart is influenced, impacted, touched, or any other synonym, only through the Word of God! Some would react and say, “Well, if that is true, how is the ‘inner man’ strengthened as per the teaching of Ephesians 3:16?” The proper question is not whether or not the Spirit strengthens the inner man of a child of God. He does! The proper question is, how does he do this? It is accomplished through the medium of the Word. This question is not one of indwelling (we will study this later) this is a question of influence.

If the Holy Spirit works “apart from and in conjunction with” the Word of God on the heart of a Christian, then this means that the Word has become nothing more than a ‘redundancy’ system. That if the Spirit does not accomplish his work sufficiently, then one can always fall back on the Word. To join the expression, “and in conjunction with the Word,” with the statement “apart from” is to be evasive and dishonest. It serves to “muddy the water” about what the person is teaching and to “placate” those of us who deny this false doctrine. And the very fact that one can know nothing about any Bible doctrine apart from the written Word proves that the Spirit operates only through this means. If it were direct, then we would not need the Word. If the Spirit directly impacts, influences the heart of the alien sinner or the saint, apart from the Word, then these questions cannot be answered. One, why are there no Christians where the gospel has not gone? Two, why are we commanded to go into the entire world and preach the gospel to everyone? Three, why is there no knowledge of God, Christ, the Holy Spirit, salvation, and heaven where the gospel has not been taught? Four, Where was the Holy Spirit during the Dark Ages when the Bible was

chained to the pulpit? Five, who is responsible when a sinner dies in a lost condition? Six, why is there no faith where the gospel has not gone? These are but a few of the inconsistencies of the false teaching of the Spirit's working apart from and in conjunction with the Word.

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