

HOLY SPIRIT

Lesson I

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Notes for Holy Spirit, Lesson I – Characteristics

Slide 1

Many of us are familiar with God the Father and God the Son, but maybe we are not as familiar with the Holy Spirit. Why? Maybe it is because we do not spend as much time studying about the Holy Spirit. If we will study there is much we can learn. When I was younger I didn't think you could learn very much about the Holy Spirit because I did not believe there was much said about the Holy Spirit. Boy was I wrong! But just like the Father and Son there is only so much we can learn about God because God is Spirit and we are flesh therefore we cannot fully comprehend the spiritual world. But God has given us what we need to know even if we still have a lot of questions. So let's begin by looking at the characteristics of the Holy Spirit...

Slide 2

This lesson is meant to introduce us to what the Bible says concerning the characteristics of the Holy Spirit. Let's begin by asking, "Where do we first read about the Holy Spirit in the Bible?" Answer: in the second verse of Genesis!

Slide 3

Is the Holy Spirit a Divine Being? Some would say no, such as we read in the Jehovah Witness publication "the Watch Tower"....

Slide 4

Now, let's look at some of the "characteristics" of the Holy Spirit as spoken of in the Bible....

Slide 30

A great example of the Trinity is when we see all three together at the baptism of Jesus...

Slide 31

Here we find Jesus in the flesh, the Spirit of God (Holy Spirit) in the form of a dove and God the Father speaking from heaven. Three distinct Spirits. The next chart clearly shows that there are three Spirits working together as God.

Slide 32

The Holy Spirit is not the Son. John 14:16, “And I will pray the Father, and He will give you **another Helper**, that He may abide with you forever.”

The Holy Spirit is not the Father. Matt. 3:16-17, “When He had been baptized, **Jesus came up immediately from the water**; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the **Spirit of God descending like a dove** and alighting upon Him. 17 And suddenly **a voice came from heaven**, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

The Son is not the Father. I John 1:1-3, “That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life; 2 the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us, 3 that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with **the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.**”

The Father is God. I Cor. 1:3, “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

The Son is God. John 1:1-2; 14, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and **the Word was God.** 2 He was in the beginning with God. 14 And the **Word became flesh and dwelt among us**, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

The Holy Spirit is God. Acts 5:3-4, “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? 4 "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.”

Slide 33

The Holy Spirit is God! He has the characteristics of a person which means He is not an “it” or a “thing” and has the characteristics of God! No doubt about it, the Holy Spirit is God!