

**Lesson2 – A Study of the Holy Spirit**  
**The Holy Spirit and the Apostles**  
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**Introduction:** The central work of the Holy Spirit involved the apostles.

- A. Jesus personally explained the Holy Spirit's work ahead of time to the apostles.
  - 1. This promise was specific to them. **(Jn 15:26-27)**
  - 2. But it would be this work through the apostles that would be with us for all time. **(Eph 2:20)**

- B. As a young man I failed to understand passages that were addressed to inspired men and tried to apply it to myself! **(Mt 10:18-20)**

**I. The Holy Spirit revealed a perfect message through the Apostles**

- A. As Jesus was leaving this world He prepared His disciples for the Spirit's great work. **(Jn 16:7-13)**

- 1. He will convict the world of sin.
  - 2. He will convict the world of righteousness.
  - 3. He will convict the world of judgment.
  - 4. When men today preach are they seeking the same purposes as did the Holy Spirit?

- B. The apostles and prophets who revealed God's new message did so without error. **(Jn 14:26; Mt 10:18-20)**

- 1. This is a must for us to understand. This is an acid test for inspiration.
  - 2. Those who follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit are focus upon truth! **(Jn 8:31-32)**

- C. This message over time was completely written down. **(Eph 3:3-5; Jude 3)**

- 1. We are to give attention to reading and understanding this message. **(Eph 5:17; 1 Tim 4:13)**

- B. We are the readers of this work and not inspired ourselves!

- 1. This is God's plan for every man to submit to this perfect word that was delivered. **(Gal 1:6-10)**
  - 2. We now must use this word to "test the spirits" if it is from God. We must appeal to the words of inspired men! **(1 Jn 4:1, 6)**
  - 3. When teachers claim the Holy Spirit gives a message apart from the written word, then they are preparing one to go beyond what is written. **(1 Cor 4:6)**
  - 4. When a false teacher can break ones strict following of God's word, then they can lead them anywhere! Consider how many come to be Mormons.

- C. The Holy Spirit continues a work today in helping us to pray. **(Rom 8:26-27)**

- 1. Here He takes what we are trying to say and delivers it to the Father on our behalf!
  - 2. What if we do not pray or have wrong motives? **(Jas 4:2-3)**

- D. Is the Holy Spirit working in our lives?

- 1. It is very possible for us to fight and stop His great work. **(1 Thess 5:19; Rom 8:13-14)**
  - 2. Take this test to see if He is working in your life! **(Gal 5:22-23)**

***IV. Things the Holy Spirit does not do***

A. Bow to meet our selfish requests and interests. **(Jas 4:2-3)**

1. Some view their flesh as the Holy Spirit. Whatever they want must be what God must give them!
2. Others think that whatever they feel in the flesh must be The Holy Spirit speaking to them. "I can feel the spirit present in this place!"

B. Continue with the signs used to confirm the word in the 1<sup>st</sup> century. **(Mk 16:17-20)**

1. These signs were for a purpose and would come to an end. **(1 Cor 13:8-10)**
2. When the New Testament was delivered then these special gifts ceased!

**(Jas 1:25)**

3. We now are in the time where men who claim these things are not from God!

**(Zech 13:1-3)**

**Conclusion:** Let us be strong in God's might using the mighty work of the Holy Spirit.

**(Eph 6:13, 17)**

A. Are you being tested in your heart by His word? **(Heb 4:12-13)**

B. By the Holy Spirit we can see clearly how to serve God and be right with Him!