



# **The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit**

**R. David Brewer**

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MUCH OF WHAT I HAVE READ CONCERNING THE QUESTION OF THE INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT CONCERNS ITSELF WITH *WHY THE SPIRIT HIMSELF CANNOT DWELL IN THE BODY OF A CHRISTIAN*. I BELIEVE THIS CONCLUSION NEGATES AN IMPORTANT SPIRITUAL BLESSING INTENDED BY OUR FATHER. THIS BRIEF STUDY ATTEMPTS A LOOK AT VARIOUS POSITIONS, BUT ULTIMATELY AIMS TO ASK “WHY NOT?” I HOPE EACH STUDENT WILL PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER THE OUTLINE AND CHARTS CONTAINED HEREIN, AND COME TO AN UNDERSTANDING OF THIS SUBJECT, WHICH WILL ALLOW THE SPIRITUAL BLESSING INTENDED BY SUCH INDWELLING. -- R. DAVID BREWER

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*January 2000*

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# THE INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

## I. INTRODUCTION:

### A. *Why there is a problem.*

1. Because of denominational views.

**a) The mourner's bench system of getting religion.**

**b) The supposed spiritual illumination of the Scriptures.**

2. Because of the view of some brethren.

**a) False claims of "special" guidance and help.**

(1) "Holy Spirit guides the preacher to receptive audience."

(2) "The Holy Spirit is a powerful dynamic in the life of a Christian" i.e. "speaking in tongues."

(3) "The use of a house fly to teach spiritual lessons."

### B. *What the question is not:*

1. It is not – "Does the Holy Spirit dwell in the Christian?"

**a) Without question the Spirit does dwell in faithful Christians.**

(1) Romans 8:9-11 (KJV) "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. 10 And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you."

(2) 2 Timothy 1:13-14 (KJV) "Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. 14 That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us."

(3) Acts 5:32 (KJV) "And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him."

(4) 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (KJV) “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

(5) Galatians 4:6 (KJV) “And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.”

*(a) No one who accepts the authority of Scripture would deny such.*

2. It is not – “Is the Holy Spirit the word (Scripture)?”

**a) The Holy Spirit is not the word. Some have made the error of concluding that the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is nothing more than the presence of the word of God in the mind or memory of the Christian. There is a difference in the Holy Spirit and the words of the Holy Spirit.**

**b) The Spirit was to bring truth and to guide in all truth.**

(1) John 16:13 (KJV) “Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come.”

**c) The Spirit is a divine being, one of the Godhead.**

(1) 2 Corinthians 13:14 (KJV) “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.”

3. It is not – “If the Holy Spirit does not dwell in us personally, are both prayer and providence at stake?”

**a) Neither are at stake. Both are different subjects.**

**b) This is not to say that some have not incorporated them into the basic question.**

4. It is not a question of the Spirit being limited to the word in every activity.

**a) Romans 8:26-27 (if it refers to the Holy Spirit, and I believe it does) involves what the Spirit does FOR US, but not necessarily what He does IN US.**

(1) Romans 8:26-27 (KJV) “Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”

5. It is not a question of “If the Holy Spirit dwells in us personally, what does he do for us as a result of this bodily indwelling?” (cf. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

**a) Some have certainly attempted to MAKE this THE question!**

6. Some of these questions have been used to “prove” various positions.

***C. What the question is:***

1. HOW does the Holy Spirit dwell in the Christian?

**a) Does He dwell in us “personally”?**

**b) Does He dwell in us “only through the word”?**

**c) Does He dwell in us “representatively”?**

**d) Does His indwelling indicate occupancy?**

***D. How shall the question be answered?***

1. Not by “what older preachers have said or written,” “reliable sources,” the majority, who hold a certain “position,” “philosophy,” or even “complicated grammatical arguments.”

**a) Those who have attempted to decide this question by the use of these methods have certainly not all come to the same conclusions.**

**b) Noted men such as Alexander Campbell, Foy E. Wallace, Jr., H. Leo Boles, and James D. Bales, have not been able to completely agree.**

2. MUST be answered by the Scriptures and their context. The word of God must be rightly divided.

***E. Our Attitude:***

1. Not one of disunity and division.

2. Not one of making unfair accusations.

**a) I.e. “One does not belong to Christ if he does not believe in the ‘personal’ indwelling of the Holy Spirit.”**

(1) Romans 8:9 (KJV) “But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.”

**b) “Those who believe in the ‘personal’ indwelling must believe in tongues, miraculous works today, direct operation of the Spirit on the hearts in both conversion and guidance of Christians.”**

3. This should not be an issue upon which we should draw lines of fellowship, except, perhaps, in the case when one takes extreme positions that force division upon brethren.

4. Confidence in the attitude, and respect for the authority of God’s word, of those present as we study this question.

***F. Recognize the limitations of discussion: not every aspect will be covered.***

***G. The basic positions to be discussed:***

1. The Holy Spirit dwells in the Christian, but not personally.
2. The Holy Spirit dwells in a Christian personally (as in the Spirit Himself).

## **II. The Holy Spirit Dwells in a Christian, But Not Personally.**

***A. The position that the Holy Spirit does not dwell in a Christian “personally” is proposed basically five ways:***

1. How the Spirit does dwell in Christians.
2. Why it cannot dwell in a Christian personally.
3. A specific view of the “gift of the Holy Spirit” (cf. Acts 2:38-39).
4. The personal indwelling is not demonstrated, therefore to believe in it is error. (They say, “The Spirit convicts, converts, and guides through the medium of the word.”)
5. The “negative” consequences of believing in the direct indwelling.

***B. The Position stated:***

1. "The idea of the personal God, the personal Christ, or the personal Holy Spirit dwelling in a man is a theological misconception (sic). We receive Christ spiritually; we receive the Holy Spirit spiritually."<sup>1</sup>
2. "When the word of Christ dwell in Christians, the Holy Spirit dwells in them. The Holy Spirit and the word of God are inseparable; the word of God is the word of the Holy Spirit. "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly" (Colossians 3:16) is the way for Christ to dwell in us; it is the way for the Holy Spirit to dwell in us."<sup>2</sup>
3. "The Holy Spirit dwells in the Christian, but he does so through the medium of the word as a man believes and obeys that word."<sup>3</sup>

**C. The five proposals for this proposition:**

1. How He DOES dwell in the Christian.

**a) Through the medium of the word (the gospel of divine revelation). The Holy Spirit is not the word, and the word is not the Holy Spirit, but the Holy Spirit uses the word as the means by which He accomplishes His work in conviction, conversion, and sanctification.**

- (1) The power for conversion of alien sinners is the gospel.

*(a) Romans 1:16-17 (KJV) "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. 17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith."*

*(b) 1 Corinthians 4:15 (KJV) "For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel."*

*(c) James 1:18 (KJV) "Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures."*

*(d) 1 Peter 1:22-25 (KJV) "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: 23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. 24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: 25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you."*

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<sup>1</sup> F.E. Wallace, Jr., *Mission and Medium of the Holy Spirit*, p. 612

<sup>2</sup> H.L. Boles, *The Holy Spirit – His Personality, Nature, Works*, pp. 207-208

<sup>3</sup> F.T. Puckett, 1974 *Thayer Street* (Akron, Ohio) *Fall Meeting Notes*

(2) The word is all that is necessary to do this.

(a) *James 1:21 (KJV)* “Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, **and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.**”

(b) *1 Thessalonians 2:13 (KJV)* “For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.”

(3) The power for the sanctification and edification of the saved is in the same gospel.

(a) *John 17:17 (KJV)* “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”

(b) *1 Peter 2:1-3 (KJV)* “Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, 2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: 3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.”

(c) *Cf. 1 Thessalonians 4:1-7; Ephesians 4:17-21*

(i) In conviction, conversion, and sanctification, the Holy Spirit operates only through the Word. (We must agree with this statement)

## **b) The indwelling Deity:**

(1) God dwells in the Christian

(a) *1 John 4:12-16 (KJV)* “No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us. 13 Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. 15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. 16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.”

(b) *2 Corinthians 6:16 (KJV)* “And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”

(2) Christ dwells in the Christian.

(a) *Colossians 1:27 (KJV)* “To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:”

(3) The Holy Spirit dwells in the Christian.



(a) *1 Corinthians 6:19 (KJV) “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?”*

(4) What is predicated of one member of the Godhead is predicated of all members of the Godhead (Ephesians 5:18-19 cf. Colossians 3:16; Luke 11:13 cf. Matthew 7:11)<sup>4</sup>

(5) When we learn how one member of the Godhead dwells in the Christian, we will learn how all members indwell the Christian.<sup>5</sup>

(a) *It is by faith.*<sup>6</sup>

(i) Ephesians 3:17 (KJV) “That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,”

(ii) Galatians 2:20 (KJV) “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”

(iii) Galatians 3:2 (KJV) “This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?”

(b) *The indwelling simply signifies unity.*

(i) Cf. John 15:1-10; 17:20-23

(6) “The mode, medium, how of the Holy Spirit is the written word – apart from the word, we would not even know of the Holy Spirit.”<sup>7 & 8</sup>

(7) “Neither God nor Christ dwells personally in us. God is in His heavens and Christ is at the right hand of God. Christ has ascended back to the Father, so He does not dwell in us in person. He dwells in us through His representative. The Holy Spirit represents God and Christ on earth. When the Holy Spirit dwells in Christians, God and Christ dwell in them.... As God and Christ dwell in us through the Holy Spirit, so the Holy Spirit dwells in us through His agent, the word of truth. When the word of Christ dwells in Christians, the Holy Spirit dwells in them. The Holy Spirit and the word of God are inseparable; the word of God is the word of the Holy Spirit. “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly” (Colossians 3:16) is the way for Christ to dwell in us; it is the way for the Holy Spirit to dwell in us.”<sup>9 & 10</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Would this argument hold true when considering the incarnation?

<sup>5</sup> What about the possibility that God and Christ dwell in us through the Holy Spirit?

<sup>6</sup> This is like Baptists arguing that we are “saved by faith” and therefore we are not saved by baptism. Knowing that the Holy Spirit dwells in us by faith does not eliminate His actually indwelling our bodies.

<sup>7</sup> F.E. Wallace, *The Gospel For Today*

<sup>8</sup> Would the same reasoning negate or eliminate the miraculous works of God?

<sup>9</sup> H.L. Boles, *The Holy Spirit, His Personality, Nature, Works*, pp. 207-208

2. WHY it cannot dwell in the Christian personally.

a) “Since the Holy Spirit is a person possessing all the qualities of personality, how is it possible for Him to personally dwell in a multiplicity of Christians at the same time?”

b) “If it be maintained that the Holy Spirit as a personal being inhabits the bodies of Christians directly, immediately, without medium, then I must reject this as impossible without fragmenting the Spirit, which would destroy His personality” (emphasis mine – rdb)<sup>11 & 12</sup>

c) “In the nature of things, it is impossible for spirit to contact spirit without medium, except through miraculous process, as upon the prophets of God and the apostles of Christ, and to assert it is to assume inspiration.” (emphasis mine – rdb)<sup>13 & 14</sup>

d) “Neither demon or deity can personally enter the human heart.”<sup>15 & 16</sup>

e) “The Bible plainly says that the Holy Spirit dwells within us – but it does not say that the Spirit dwells in us apart from the word or ‘personally’ that is the passage that none of these brethren have produced, and they cannot do so.”<sup>17 & 18</sup>

3. A specific view of the Gift of the Holy Spirit – Acts 2:38-39.

a) Acts 2:38-39 (KJV) “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. 39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.”

b) A grammatical argument is made here: The use of the preposition OF

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<sup>10</sup> It is interesting that those who use Boles’ argument about God and Christ being specified as being in Heaven do not mention that the Holy Spirit is specified as being *in Christians* and that no where after His being “sent” is it mentioned that He is in heaven with God and Christ.

<sup>11</sup> F.T. Puckett, 1974 *Thayer Street Fall Meeting Notes*

<sup>12</sup> Here I agree with Jimmy Tuten – “We must avoid extremes; i.e. indwelling impossible because He is a person.” (*The Holy Spirit – His Person & Work*)

<sup>13</sup> F.E. Wallace, *The Gospel For Today*, p. 602.

<sup>14</sup> Wallace does not explain either why it is impossible or why one who believes in indwelling must believe in present day inspiration. I would maintain that it is not impossible and that there is no necessary connection to present day inspiration.

<sup>15</sup> F.E. Wallace, *The Gospel For Today*, p. 602.

<sup>16</sup> Could a demon enter the human body? Cf. Matthew 8:28-33; Matthew 9:32-33, etc. I simply refer to these passages to demonstrate that a demon could and did indwell and possess human bodies. Proving that such is not “*impossible*.”

<sup>17</sup> F.E. Wallace, *The Gospel For Today*, p. 612.

<sup>18</sup> I believe 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 does exactly what Wallace requests here.

**before a noun in the English sentence makes it possessive. So, “The gift of the Holy Spirit” is the “gift belonging to the Holy Spirit” or “the Holy Spirit’s gift.”**<sup>19</sup>

(1) Compare like phrases.

*(a) John 4:10 (KJV) “Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.”*

*(b) Ephesians 4:7 (KJV) “But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.”<sup>20</sup>*

(2) Must note that scholars are not agreed upon the grammatical points of this phrase. Both Wallace and Bales base their arguments somewhat on grammar, but differ widely on conclusions!

### **c) What is the gift in Acts 2:38?**

(1) This position contends that the gift is the “promise” fulfilled of verse 39.

*(a) The conjunction gar (translated “for”) connecting this verse with verse 38 is most commonly used to introduce reason for, or to give an explanation of that which proceeds. I.e. “ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” is “the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.”*

(i) Is the gift the Holy Spirit as a person?

(ii) Is the gift a blessing given by the Holy Spirit?

*(b) Answer is found in “What was the promise?”*

(i) The promise made to Abraham was that through him and his seed all nations of the earth would be blessed.

*(a) Cf. Genesis 12:1-3; Genesis 18:18; Genesis 22:16-18*

*(b) Galatians 3:16-22 (KJV) “Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ. 17 And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect. 18 For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise. 19 Wherefore then*

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<sup>19</sup> A.T. Robertson

<sup>20</sup> Note: In these verses, we are told exactly what the gift(s) are – “living water,” and “grace.”

*serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator. 20 Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one. 21 Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law. 22 But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe."*

*(c) This promise is said to be fulfilled in and through Christ.*

(i) Galatians 3:16 (KJV) "Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ."

(ii) Acts 3:24-26 (KJV) "Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days. 25 Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed. 26 Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities."

*(d) What is the blessing promised?*

(i) It is the blessing given to Abraham upon the ground of his faith.

*(a) Romans 4:3 (KJV) "For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness."*

*(b) Romans 4:22 (KJV) "And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness."*

(ii) That blessing is being accounted righteous, or being justified (accounted not guilty, innocent, pardoned).

*(a) Romans 4:5 (KJV) "But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness."*

(iii) Justification by faith is the blessing promised to Abraham and his seed.

*(a) Cf. Genesis 12:1-3*

*(b) Galatians 3:7-9 (KJV) "Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. 8 And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. 9 So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham."*

(e) *How and where is the blessing obtained and enjoyed?*

(i) “By faith” and “in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3:26) “as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ (verse 27). Therefore, those who by faith are baptized into Christ are the children of God in Him. In Him all the children of God are made one (Abraham’s seed) and “heirs according to the promise.” (vv. 28, 29)

(ii) Heirs of what promise? “Clearly it is the blessing of justification by faith promised to Abraham, and his seed. (Galatians 3:8,16)<sup>21</sup>

(iii) The gift of the Holy Spirit was then the fulfillment of the promise of spiritual salvation.<sup>22</sup>

4. The personal indwelling is not demonstrated, therefore, to believe it is error.

**a) “It is a little difficult to figure out what the advocates of personal Holy Spirit indwelling think the Spirit does by means of this personal indwelling.”**

(1) He gives no revelation of God or religious knowledge.

(2) He provides no power unto salvation.

(3) He produces no faith, for the word is exclusive in this function (Romans 10:17).<sup>23</sup>

**b) “If the Spirit dwells in a person directly He must provide direct testimony for that immediate indwelling in the demonstration of it.” (emphasis mine – rdb)<sup>24 & 25</sup>**

**c) “Some believe that direct indwelling demands direct expression – For why a direct indwelling without the direct expression and guidance?” Some claim that the modern day tongues movements are a “direct result of the theory of direct indwelling.”<sup>26 & 27</sup>**

5. The consequences of believing in direct indwelling.

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<sup>21</sup> F.T. Puckett

<sup>22</sup> F.T. Puckett

<sup>23</sup> This material (section 4) condensed from F.T. Puckett’s material.

<sup>24</sup> F.E. Wallace, *The Gospel for Today*.

<sup>25</sup> Why? Wallace cites no proof for his “rule.”

<sup>26</sup> F.E. Wallace, *The Gospel for Today*.

<sup>27</sup> Wallace here, perhaps without realizing it, puts his finger on the reason for his and other’s teaching – reactionary – reacting to the false teaching of many denominational charismatic people.

a) “The dogma of the ‘sinful nature of man’ and the necessity of the direct impact of the Spirit to remove it, with the subsequent effect of the impossibility of apostasy through the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit.”<sup>28</sup>

b) “It is contrary to the nature of man, in that all direct operations and indwellings circumvent the faculties of man to which the revelation of the Holy Spirit is addressed.”<sup>29</sup>

c) “It is contrary to the nature of God’s law, which is designated the law of the mind.”<sup>30</sup>

d) It contradicts the teaching of the New Testament on both the law of pardon and the means of edification.<sup>31</sup>

e) “If the personal Holy Spirit dwells within anyone, his conduct is guided by direct Holy Spirit control, apart from the word; and if that is true of his conduct it would also be true of his words, and the result would be inspiration.”<sup>32</sup>

f) The direct operation and indwelling propaganda surrenders the whole gospel scheme of things and all arguments against the doctrines of denominations collapses.<sup>33</sup> & <sup>34</sup>

### III. The Holy Spirit Dwells In A Christian Personally.<sup>35</sup>

***A. The position that the Holy Spirit does dwell in us personally is proposed basically by the following views:***

1. The Holy Spirit was promised and given by God.
2. The gift of the Holy Spirit is the Spirit Himself (cf. Acts 2:38-39).

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<sup>28</sup> Why must this be a consequence? Because some may believe and teach such, does not make it a necessary consequence of believing in the direct indwelling of the Holy Spirit. I believe in the direct indwelling of the Holy Spirit and I strenuously deny it is connected to Calvinism’s “sinful nature of man,” or to the false doctrine of the “impossibility of apostasy.”

<sup>29</sup> Why must direct indwelling be directly connected to “direct operation”, and why must indwelling circumvent the faculties of man? Did indwelling circumvent the faculties of John the Baptist? Cf. Luke 1:15 & John 10:41

<sup>30</sup> Why?

<sup>31</sup> Only if his assumption in # a is true. Referring back to an assumption proves nothing. The assumption must first be proven.

<sup>32</sup> Again, an assumption. Jesus said the apostles would have the Holy Spirit with and in them (John 14:17), yet the apostles could and did make errors. Example: Peter, Galatians 2:11-14

<sup>33</sup> Again, connects one with the other. Why? Because we believe John 3:16 and that one must believe in Christ to be saved, does it mean that we hold the denominational theory of faith only? Of course not. Actually, many of these arguments are unfounded and epithetical in nature.

<sup>34</sup> This list of “consequences” were taken from F.E. Wallace’s “*The Mission and Medium of the Holy Spirit.*”

<sup>35</sup> By this I mean that it is the Holy Spirit Himself that actually and literally dwells in the physical body of the Christian.

3. How the Holy Spirit dwells in us.
4. The Holy Spirit is a seal of Sonship and earnest on an eternal inheritance.
5. The Spirit intercedes for Christians (cf. Romans 8:26-27).

**B. The position stated:**

1. “How do we know that the Holy Spirit dwells in us? First, we know through faith in God, for He promised the Spirit to those who are baptized into Christ. God fulfills His promises when we meet His conditions. Second, the presence of the Spirit in my life is revealed by my actions... the presence of the Spirit in our lives is revealed by our conduct (Galatians 5:22-23).<sup>36</sup>
2. “We should accept the fact of the indwelling of the Spirit, but we should not try to explain it in such a way as commit us to an unscriptural position.”<sup>37</sup>
3. “The Holy Spirit dwells in me and every faithful Christian.”

**C. The views:**

1. The Holy Spirit was promised and given by God.

**a) To the apostles.**

(1) John 14:17 (KJV) “Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.”

(2) John 7:37-39 (KJV) “In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. 38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. 39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)”

**b) To those who repent and are baptized.**

(1) Acts 2:38 (KJV) “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

**c) To those who obey God.**

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<sup>36</sup> James D. Bales, *The Holy Spirit and the Christian*, p. 46.

<sup>37</sup> *ibid*

(1) Acts 5:32 (KJV) “And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.”

**d) Dwells in each faithful child of God.**

(1) 2 Timothy 1:14 (KJV) “That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us.”

2. The gift of the Holy Spirit is the Spirit Himself (Acts 2:38).

**a) Grammatical.**

(1) “The gift consists in the Holy Spirit (genitive of identification).<sup>38</sup>

(2) “genitive of material.”<sup>39</sup>

(3) Thus, the gift was the Holy Spirit.<sup>40</sup>

**b) By context (Acts 2:38-39). The “promise” was of the Holy Spirit Himself.**

(1) The promise was not “salvation” -- for salvation is indicated in “remission of sins.”

(2) The promise was not the Word, for Peter does not say, nor does the context imply, that they were to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of sins and they would receive the word of God.

**c) Acts 2:38 viewed with Acts 5:32. The Holy Spirit is given to those who obey God. The Spirit is promised to those who obeyed the gospel in Acts 2:38. The obedient are referred to in both Acts 2:38 and Acts 5:32. Since those in Acts 5:32 have the Spirit, how can we avoid the conclusion that the Spirit was promised in Acts 2:38?**

3. HOW the Holy Spirit dwells in us.

**a) In the Body.**

(1) 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (KJV) “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

(2) What Paul did not say: “Know you not that your mind/heart is the temple of the Holy Spirit?”

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<sup>38</sup> A.T. Robertson, *Word Pictures in the New Testament*.

<sup>39</sup> N. Turner, *A Grammar of New Testament Greek*.

<sup>40</sup> So, one can see that the grammatical argument is used by both sides of the issue. Seems to me that one probably negates the other!



(a) *Objection: Some say Paul was using “body/temple” as a figure.*

(i) Paul gives this as a reason for not committing fornication with the physical body.

(ii) Peter refers to his body as being the tabernacle of his spirit. (2 Peter 1:13-14). ***Why can't the Holy Spirit dwell in my body the same way my spirit does?***

(b) *Paul clearly makes the distinction between our body and spirit, verse 20.<sup>41</sup>*

4. The Holy Spirit is a seal of Sonship and earnest of an eternal inheritance.

**a) 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 (KJV) “Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; 22 Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.”**

**b) 2 Corinthians 5:5 (KJV) “Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit.”**

**c) Ephesians 1:13-14 (KJV) “In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, 14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.”**

**d) Galatians 4:6 (KJV) “And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.”<sup>42</sup>**

(1) This “earnest” is not the “word” or “promise of salvation,” but the Holy Spirit, assurance of Salvation.

5. The Holy Spirit intercedes for Christians.

**a) Romans 8:26-27 (KJV) “Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”**

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<sup>41</sup> Questions to consider about this passage (1 Corinthians 6:13-20): 1) In this context, what activity is the apostle seeking to stop? Actual, physical/fleshly fornication? 2) In verse 13 Paul says, “The \_\_\_\_\_ is not for fornication.” 3) Whose body is under consideration? 4) Is this a “physical” body or a “figurative” body? 5) Does verse 20 distinguish between the body and the spirit? 6) What does verse 19 say the Holy Spirit is in? 7) Is Paul teaching that the Holy Spirit is “in” the same body that is capable of committing fornication? 8) What argument does Paul make to convince us that we “ought not” to commit fornication with our bodies?

<sup>42</sup> To those who would argue “in our hearts” eliminates a “body” indwelling, I ask, How could the Spirit dwell in our body without dwelling in our hearts?

(1) This certainly may not refer to the “indwelling”, but it does address the question, often asked, “what does the Spirit do separate and apart from the Word?” We learn about this through the Word, but this is an action of the Spirit apart from the word.

#### IV. **Conclusion:**

***A. One need not understand how or why to have faith in the indwelling. One does not understand how his own spirit dwells within him, yet he believes that it does.***

***B. Additional Passages to consider:***

1. Romans 8:9-11 (KJV) “But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. 10 And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.”

2. 1 John 4:2-4 (KJV) “Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: 3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. 4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”

***C. Closing observations:***

1. We should be leery of any position that would limit the power of God. When we say that God (the Holy Spirit) cannot do something, then we better be prepared to prove it, or we will find ourselves among the modernist of today and reminiscent of the unbelieving Sadducees of the first century (Matthew 22:29).

2. Some have asked the “significance” of the indwelling Spirit of God. Let me offer some:

**a) A powerful incentive for the believer to live a godly life.**

(1) 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 (KJV) “Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. 19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

**b) He is our help in time of weakness (when we don't know how to pray, as we ought).**

(1) Romans 8:26-27 (KJV) “Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”

**c) He is our earnest – a down payment on our eternal inheritance.**

(1) Ephesians 1:13-14 (KJV) “In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, 14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.”

**d) Our communion with God is through the Holy Spirit.**

(1) 2 Corinthians 13:14 (KJV) “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.”

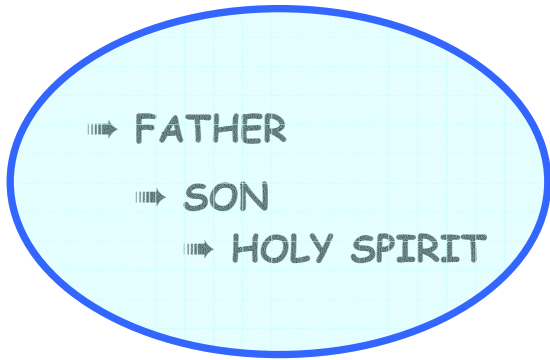
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NON -BELIEVER



SEPARATED BY SIN  
"SPIRITUAL DEATH"



Chart # 1

PENITENT BELIEVER

"UNREGENERATE"

**HOLY SPIRIT**

SEPARATED UNTIL "BAPTIZED"



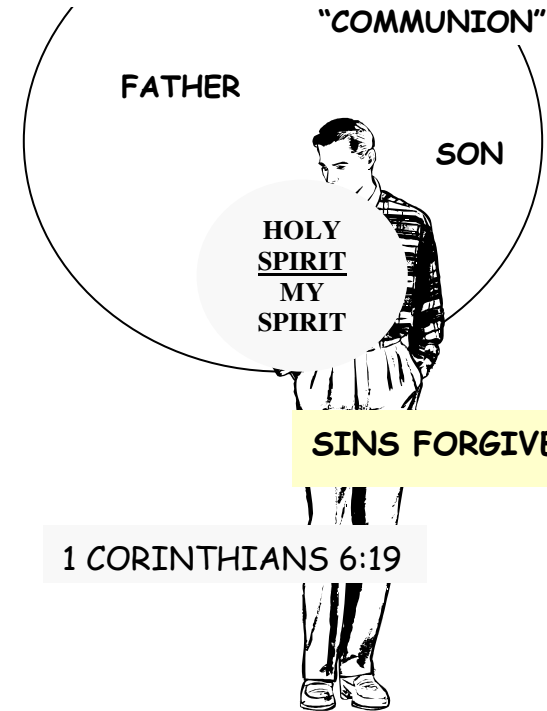
1) HAS HEARD AND BELIEVES THE GOSPEL

2) BUT, STILL IN SIN, STILL SEPARATED FROM GOD.

BAPTIZED BELIEVER

1 JOHN 3:24

2 CORINTHIANS 13:14  
"COMMUNION"



1 CORINTHIANS 6:19

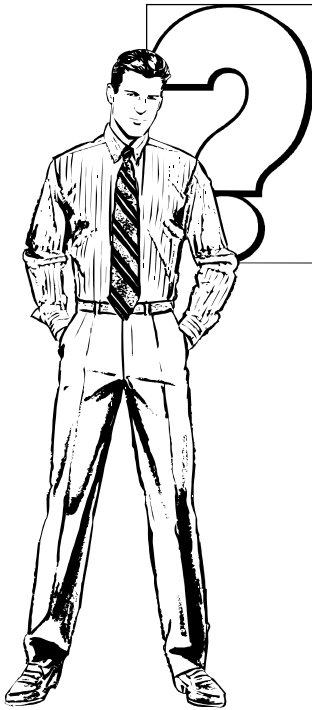
"SPIRITUAL LIFE"

NO LONGER  
SEPARATED FROM  
GOD

EPHESIANS 1:13, 14

# THE INDWELLING SPIRIT HELPS OUR INFIRMITY

THREE TIMES IT IS AFFIRMED THAT THE SPIRIT OF GOD INDWELLS THE BELIEVER



Romans 8:9 (ASV) “But ye are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you....”

Romans 8:11 (ASV) “But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwelleth in you... through his Spirit that dwelleth in you.”

THE INDWELLING SPIRIT OF GOD HELPS OUR WEAKNESS BY MAKING INTERCESSION FOR US 1) ACCORDING TO THE WILL OF GOD, AND 2) ACCORDING TO OUR OWN WILL - I.E. BY EXPRESSING TO GOD THOSE LONGINGS WHICH WE ARE UNABLE TO EXPRESS ADEQUATELY OURSELVES

Romans 8:26-27 (ASV) “And in like manner the Spirit also helpeth our infirmity: for we know not how to pray as we ought; but the Spirit himself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered; 27 and he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (ASV) “Or know ye not that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have from God? and ye are not your own; 20 for ye were bought with a price: glorify God therefore in your body.”

## SCRIPTURES THAT AFFIRM

# THE INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

## IN THE BODY OF THE CHRISTIAN

Acts 2:38 (ASV) “And Peter said unto them, Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 5:32 (ASV) “And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God hath given to them that obey him.”

1 John 3:24 (ASV) “And he that keepeth his commandments abideth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he gave us.”

1 Corinthians 6:19 (ASV) “Or know ye not that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have from God? and ye are not your own;”

Romans 8:9-11 (ASV) “But ye are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you. But if any man hath not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. 10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwelleth in you, he that raised up Christ Jesus from the dead shall give life also to your mortal bodies through his Spirit that dwelleth in you.”

1 John 4:2-4 (ASV) “Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: 3 and every spirit that confesseth not Jesus is not of God: and this is the spirit of the antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it cometh; and now it is in the world already. 4 Ye are of God, my little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world.”

John 7:38-39 (ASV) “He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, from within him shall flow rivers of living water. 39 But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believed on him were to receive: for the Spirit was not yet given; because Jesus was not yet glorified.”

# THE INDWELLING SPIRIT OF GOD

## A POWERFUL INCENTIVE

 *FOR THE BELIEVER TO LIVE A GODLY LIFE*

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 (ASV) “Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. 19 Or know ye not that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have from God? and ye are not your own; 20 for ye were bought with a price: glorify God therefore in your body.”

## OUR HELP IN TIME OF WEAKNESS

 *(WHEN WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO PRAY AS WE OUGHT)*

Romans 8:26-27 (ASV) “And in like manner the Spirit also helpeth our infirmity: for we know not how to pray as we ought; but the Spirit himself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered; 27 and he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”

## OUR EARNEST

 *A DOWN PAYMENT ON OUR ETERNAL INHERITANCE*

Ephesians 1:13-14 (ASV) “in whom ye also, having heard the word of the truth, the gospel of your salvation,-- in whom, having also believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 which is an earnest of our inheritance, unto the redemption of God’s own possession, unto the praise of his glory.”

## OUR COMMUNION

 *WITH GOD IS THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT*

2 Corinthians 13:14 (ASV) “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.”



# THE INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1 Corinthians 6:13-20 (ASV) "Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall bring to nought both it and them. But the **body** is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the **body**." 14 and God both raised the Lord, and will raise up as through his power. 15 Know ye not that your **bodies** are members of Christ? shall I then take away the members of Christ, and make them members of a harlot? God forbid. 16 Or know ye not that he that is joined to a harlot is one body? for, The twain, saith he, shall become one flesh. 17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit. 18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the **body**; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own **body**. 19 Or know ye not that your **body** is a temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have from God? and ye are not your own; 20 for ye were bought with a price: glorify God therefore in your **body**."

Chart # 5

## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- 1) IN THIS CONTEXT, WHAT ACTIVITY IS THE APOSTLE SEEKING TO STOP?
- 2) IN VERSE 13 PAUL SAYS, "THE \_\_\_\_\_ IS NOT FOR FORNICATION."
- 3) WHOSE BODY IS UNDER CONSIDERATION?
- 4) IS THIS A "PHYSICAL" BODY OR A "FIGURATIVE" BODY?
- 5) DOES VERSE 20 DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE BODY AND THE SPIRIT?
- 6) WHAT DOES VERSE 19 SAY THE HOLY SPIRIT IS "IN"?
- 7) IS PAUL TEACHING THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT IS "IN" THE SAME BODY THAT IS CAPABLE OF COMMITTING FORNICATION?
- 8) WHAT ARGUMENT DOES PAUL MAKE TO CONVINC US THAT WE "OUGHT NOT" TO COMMIT FORNICATION WITH OUR BODIES?

## PASSAGES TO CONSIDER:

John 7:38-39 (ASV) "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, from within him shall flow rivers of living water. 39 But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believed on him were to receive: for the Spirit was not yet given; because Jesus was not yet glorified."

**QUESTION: FROM WHERE DOES JESUS TEACH THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL FLOW? DO YOU BELIEVE IT?**

Hebrews 6:4 (ASV) "For as touching those who were once enlightened and tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Spirit,"

Ezekiel 36:27; 37:14 – IN THE OLD TESTAMENT, GOD PROMISED THAT HE WOULD "PUT HIS SPIRIT WITHIN/IN" THE FAITHFUL. THIS PROMISE IS ASSOCIATED WITH THOSE UNDER THE NEW COVENANT (CHRISTIANS). COMPARE THESE PASSAGES WITH THE STATEMENT FOUND IN GALATIANS 4:6 .. " (ASV) "And because ye are sons, God sent forth the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, Abba, Father." Cf. Acts 2:38; 5:32 & Ephesians 1:13

1 CORINTHIANS 3:16

**“YE ARE A TEMPLE OF GOD, AND...  
THE SPIRIT OF GOD DWELLETH IN YOU.”**

1 PETER 2:5  
“LIVING STONES” ... “SPIRITUAL HOUSE.”

**HOLY SPIRIT**  
1 CORINTHIANS 6:19

JESUS  
CHRIST

APOSTLES AND PROPHETS

EPHESIANS 2:21-22

“...A HOLY TEMPLE IN THE LORD...BUILDED TOGETHER FOR A HABITATION OF  
GOD IN THE SPIRIT”

### THE GODHEAD

THE  
FATHER

JESUS  
CHRIST

1 JOHN 3:24

“AND HEREBY WE KNOW THAT HE ABIDEETH IN  
US, BY THE SPIRIT WHICH HE GAVE US.”

GODHEAD

FATHER

SON

HOLY  
SPIRIT  
MY  
SPIRIT

GALATIANS 4:6

2 CORINTHIANS 13:14

“COMMUNION OF THE  
HOLY SPIRIT.”

