

The following material may be used, as is and unaltered. No changes are permitted unless expressly authorized by the author.

©2021 R. David Brewer

# CONSIDERING THE INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

# Three Positions on the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

**Only** through the Word

This position believes that it is through the Word of God that the Holy Spirit indwells the Christian. This indwelling is said to be a “representative” indwelling in that it denies the premise that the Holy Spirit actually indwells the body of the believer.

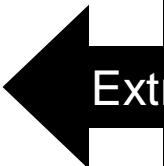
Where is the passage that teaches this position?

**Reactionary?**

This view holds that it is through the Word of God (the gospel of Christ) that one is convicted of sin and converted to Christ. However, it is the Spirit of God that is working in this process to save and transform the Christian (Titus 3:5). One is saved by obeying the commands of God revealed in His Word (Heb. 5:8-9). It is from the Word of God that we learn that the Spirit indwells our bodies (Rom. 8:9-11; 1 Cor. 6:19). Without the Word of God there would be no indwelling of the Holy Spirit in the believer. Without the revelation of Scripture we would not even know the Spirit dwells in us (cf. 1 Cor. 6:19 ... “or know ye not”).

**Separate** and **Apart** From the Word

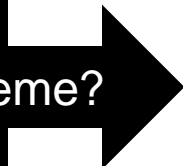
Some believe that the Holy Spirit dwells in every Christian in a distinctly miraculous way, separate from the influence that comes through hearing and believing the Word. This indwelling is alleged to be evidenced through manifestations of His presence through signs, gifts, and inspiration. In this way enlightenment comes through the prompting of the Spirit. This is given precedence over the revelation that comes from the Holy Scriptures. There is NO credible evidence that the Holy Spirit is working in this manner today.



Extreme?



Supported by Scripture



Extreme?

“The vain and ignorant enthusiast who prays for a baptism in fire, and hopes for dreams and visions, and sensible signs and wonders, as attendant upon the impartation of the Spirit, is not a whit farther from the truth, than the errorist who affirms that miracles were a necessary and invariable accompaniment of the Spirit’s presence, and that because such demonstrations are not now given, therefore no Holy Spirit whatever is now received, and Christ’s promise to be with his people to the end of the world has totally failed.”

# The Holy Spirit was promised in a different sense / way than he was available in Old Testament times ...

- (Isaiah 44:3 ASV) For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and streams upon the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring:
- (Ezekiel 36:26-27 ASV) <sup>26</sup> A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup> And I will put my Spirit **within** you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep mine ordinances, and do them.
- (Ezekiel 37:14 ASV) And I will put my Spirit **in** you, and ye shall live, and I will place you in your own land: and ye shall know that I, Jehovah, have spoken it and performed it, saith Jehovah.

# The Holy Spirit was promised in a different sense / way than he was available in Old Testament times ...

- (John 14:15-18 ASV) <sup>15</sup> If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may be with you for ever, <sup>17</sup> even the Spirit of truth: whom the world cannot receive; for it beholdeth him not, neither knoweth him: ye know him; for he abideth with you, and shall be in you. <sup>18</sup> I will not leave you desolate: I come unto you.
- (John 7:37-39 ASV) <sup>37</sup> Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink. <sup>38</sup> He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, from within him shall flow rivers of living water. <sup>39</sup> 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.

# Whatever the Holy Spirit Does ...

7

## The Holy Spirit

- ❑ Nehemiah 9:30
- ❑ John 14:26
- ❑ John 16:8
- ❑ John 3:5
- ❑ John 6:63
- ❑ John 16:13
- ❑ 1 Cor. 6:11; Rom. 15:16
- ❑ 1 Cor. 6:11
- ❑ 1 Cor. 6:11
- ❑ Acts 9:31
- ❑ Rom. 8:16
- ❑ Rom. 5:5
- ❑ Eph 5:18
- ❑ Rev. 22:17
- ❑ Eph. 3:16
- ❑ 2 Cor. 3:17
- ❑ Psalms 104:30

## Operation

- ❑ Instructs
- ❑ Teaches
- ❑ Convicts
- ❑ Gives new birth
- ❑ Revives
- ❑ Guides
- ❑ Sanctifies
- ❑ Saves
- ❑ Washes/Comforts
- ❑ Witnesses
- ❑ Perfects love
- ❑ Fills
- ❑ Calls
- ❑ Builds up
- ❑ Makes free
- ❑ Rejoices the heart
- ❑ Creates

# The Word Does ...

8

## The Word

- ❑ 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- ❑ John 6:45
- ❑ Titus 1:9
- ❑ James 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:23
- ❑ Psa. 119:50
- ❑ 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- ❑ 2 Thess. 2:13; Jon.17:17
- ❑ James 1:21
- ❑ Eph. 5:26 / 1 Thess. 4:18
- ❑ John 5:39
- ❑ 1 John 2:5
- ❑ Col. 3:16
- ❑ 2 Thess. 2:14 / Eph. 1:13
- ❑ Acts 20:32
- ❑ John 8:32
- ❑ Psalms 119:111
- ❑ Hebrews 11:3

## Operation

- ❑ Instructs
- ❑ Teaches
- ❑ Convicts
- ❑ Gives new birth
- ❑ Revives
- ❑ Guides
- ❑ Sanctifies
- ❑ Saves
- ❑ Washes/Comforts
- ❑ Witnesses
- ❑ Perfects love
- ❑ Fills
- ❑ Calls
- ❑ Builds up
- ❑ Makes free
- ❑ Rejoices the heart
- ❑ Creates



**If there is even one thing that is done by the Spirit that is not done by the word, the premise of these kinds of charts (that whatever the Holy Spirit does the word does, equating the word and the Spirit) is void!**

# Who? / When?

- **(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.**
- **(Ephesians 1:13 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,**

# The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

This promise is complex... it was made first by the prophets in the Old Testament, then by Jesus Himself... and was fulfilled in the coming of the church of Christ. The promise has several different elements to it. There was the personal, individual... universal promise of the Spirit of God being given to each believer (an indwelling). There were also miraculous elements (cf. Joel 2, Acts 2). Many times the outward manifestations of the Holy Spirit will be confused with the internal, unseen indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Great caution should be taken NOT to confuse the two.

# 1 Corinthians 6:13-20 (ASV)

12

<sup>13</sup> 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: <sup>14</sup> and God both raised the Lord, and will raise up as through his power. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> Or know ye not that he that is joined to a harlot is **one body**? for, The twain, saith he, shall become **one flesh**. <sup>17</sup> But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit. <sup>18</sup> Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his **own body**. <sup>19</sup> 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; <sup>20</sup> for ye were bought with a price: glorify God therefore in **your body**.

# 1 Corinthians 6

## Where does the Holy Spirit dwell?

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**.



# Questions concerning the text of 1 Corinthians 6

14

- In this context, what activity is the apostle seeking to stop?  
**Fornication**
- In Verse 13 Paul says,  
**“the body is not for fornication”**
- Whose body is under consideration?  
**Your bodies (that of the Christian) – vs. 13, 15**
- Is this a “physical” or a “figurative” body?  
**Physical**
- What does verse 19 say the Holy Spirit is in?  
**“you” “your body”**
- What argument does Paul make to convince us that we should not commit fornication with our bodies?  
**“your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you.”**  
**– vs. 19**

*Note: To change “body” from its normal meaning (physical) to anything else is to do an injustice to the passage. There is no justification for such a change in meaning.*

# Collectively ... in the church

15

- (1 Peter 2:5 ASV) ye also, as living stones, are built up a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
- (1 Corinthians 3:16-17 ASV) <sup>16</sup> Know ye not that ye are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? <sup>17</sup> If any man destroyeth the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, and such are ye.
- (Ephesians 2:19-22 ASV) <sup>19</sup> So then ye are no more strangers and sojourners, but ye are fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God, <sup>20</sup> being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the chief corner stone; <sup>21</sup> in whom each several building, fitly framed together, groweth into a holy temple in the Lord; <sup>22</sup> in whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of God in the Spirit. (*through the Spirit – KJV*)

# How God Dwells In the Christian

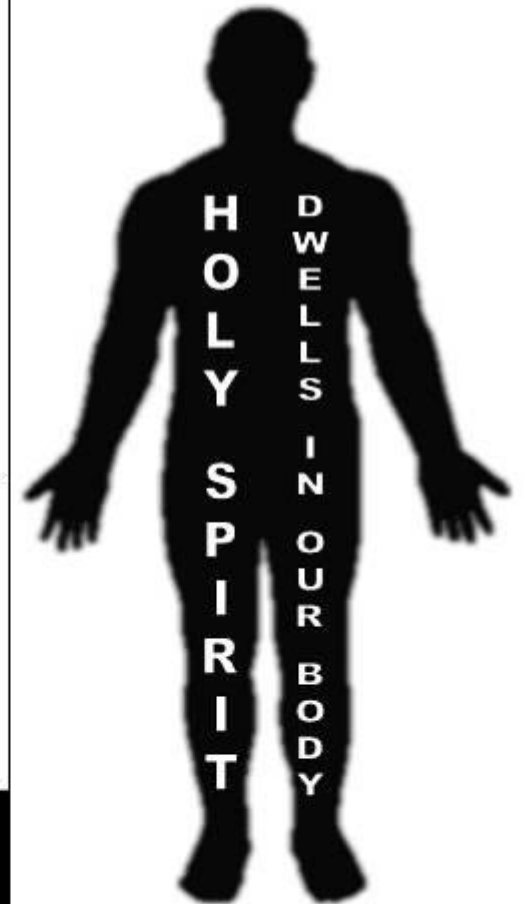
**1 John 3:24** And he that keepeth his commandments abideth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he gave us.

**Father  
Son**

Relationship

**1 John 4:12-13**

**Abide in the Christian  
Through the Holy Spirit**



Location

## Romans 8:9-11

**1 Corinthians 6:19-20** 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.



# How God Dwells In His Church

**God** dwells in the Christian

**Christ** dwells in the Christian

**Ephesians 2:20-22**

being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the chief corner stone; {21} in whom each several building, fitly framed together, groweth into a holy temple in the Lord; {22} in whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of God in the Spirit.

representatively

through the Holy Spirit

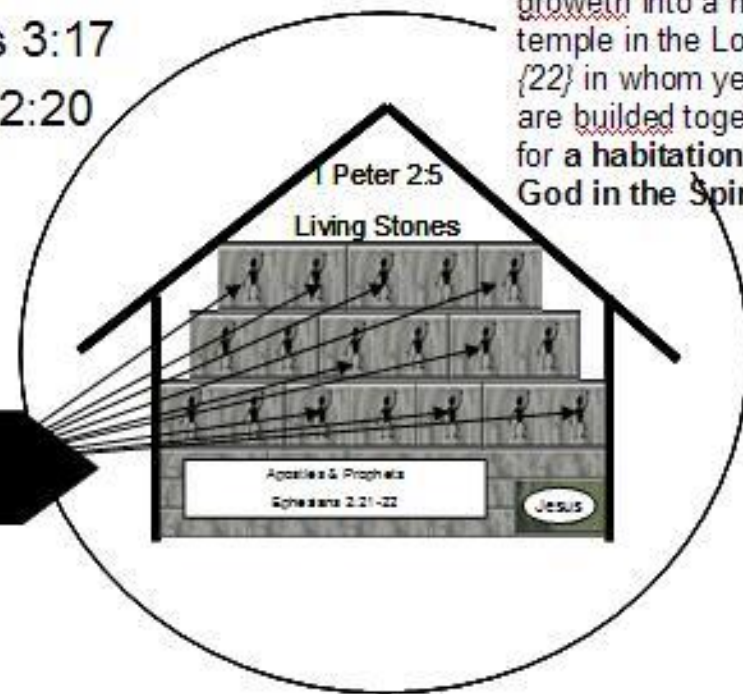
1 John 3:24

1 John 4:12-16    Colossians 1:27  
 2 Corinthians 6:16    Ephesians 3:17  
 Galatians 2:20

**The Holy Spirit dwells  
 In the Christian**

actual indwelling

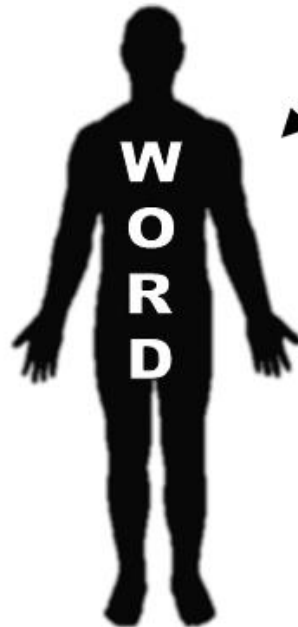
1 Corinthians 6:19  
*Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you*



# Representative Indwelling

## The Holy Spirit

DWELLS  
In the Believer  
Representatively  
THROUGH  
The Word

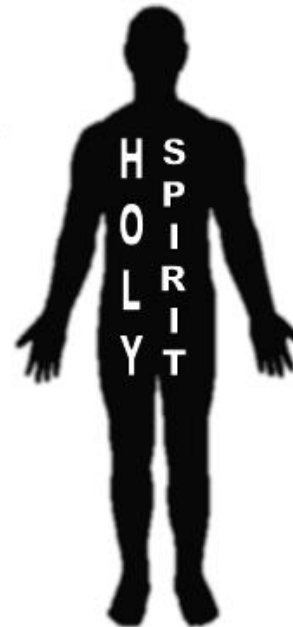


Passage

?

## God (Father & Son)

DWELLS  
In the Believer  
Representatively  
THROUGH  
The Holy Spirit



- 1 John 3:24
- Ephesians 2:19-22
- 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
- Romans 8:9-11
- 1 John 4:4

# Results?

19

- Seals us – becomes earnest, guarantee
  - ▣ 2 Corinthians 1:22; 5:5; Ephesians 1:13-14
  
- Helps us pray – becomes intercessor
  - ▣ Romans 8:26-27
  
- Life giver
  - ▣ Romans 8:11, 23

Remember the premise was  
“Whatever the Holy Spirit Does ...

20

## The Holy Spirit

- ▣ **2 Corinthians 1:22**
- ▣ **2 Corinthians 5:5**
- ▣ **Romans 8:26-27**

## Operation

- ▣ **Seals.**
- ▣ **Becomes the “earnest” of our inheritance.**
- ▣ **Aids our prayers, makes intercession for us.**

# ... the Word Does”

21

## The Word

- ▣ Passage ???
- ▣ Passage ???
- ▣ Passage ???

## Operation

- ▣ Seals.
- ▣ Becomes the “earnest” of our inheritance.
- ▣ Aids our prayers, makes intercession for us.

# Three Positions on the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit?

## Only through the Word

This position believes that it is through the Word of God that the Holy Spirit indwells the Christian. This indwelling is said to be a “representative” indwelling in that it denies the premise that the Holy Spirit actually indwells the body of the believer.

Where is the passage that teaches this position?

## In Conjunction with the Word

This view holds that it is through the Word of God (the gospel of Christ) that one is convicted of sin and converted to Christ. However, it is the Spirit of God that is working in this process to save and transform the Christian (Titus 3:5). One is saved by obeying the commands of God revealed in His Word (Heb. 5:8-9). It is from the Word of God that we learn that the Spirit indwells our bodies (Rom. 8:9-11; 1 Cor. 6:19). Without the Word of God there would be no indwelling of the Holy Spirit in the believer. Without the revelation of Scripture we would not even know the Spirit dwells in us (cf. 1 Cor. 6:19 ... “or know ye not”).

## Separate and Apart From the Word

Some believe that the Holy Spirit dwells in every Christian in a distinctly miraculous way, separate from the influence that comes through hearing and believing the Word. This indwelling is alleged to be evidenced through manifestations of His presence through signs, gifts, and inspiration. In this way enlightenment comes through the prompting of the Spirit. This is given precedence over the revelation that comes from the Holy Scriptures. There is NO credible evidence that the Holy Spirit is working in this manner today.

