

Lesson 2: A Force Or Divine Person?

“Luke...Use the force, Luke. Let the force guide you.” -Obi Wan Kenobi, from Star Wars.

Many think of the Holy Spirit as a vague, impersonal force rather than a personal being. Is the Holy Spirit merely God’s active influence in the world, or does the Spirit have personality and distinct existence?

A Personal Being

What are the personal qualities of the Holy Spirit?

John 14:16,17 - And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another

HELPER, that He may abide with you forever - the Spirit **OF TRUTH**, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

Romans 15:30 - Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the **LOVE** of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me

1 Cor 2:11 - For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit **OF GOD**.

1 Cor 12:11 - But one and the same Spirit **WORKS** all these things, distributing to each one individually as He **WILLS**.

The Holy Spirit

Eph 4:30 - And do not **GRIEVE** the Holy Spirit **OF GOD**, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

1 Tim 4:1 - Now the Spirit **EXPRESSLY SAYS** that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

A Divine Being (God)

The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person, God. Biblical statements about the Spirit prove this, equating the Spirit as God.

How is the Holy Spirit shown to be 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? 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**.”

Hebrews 10:29 - Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and

INSULTED the Spirit of grace?

Acts 28:25,26 - So when they did not agree among themselves, they departed after Paul had said one word: “The Holy Spirit **SPOKE** rightly **THROUGH** Isaiah the prophet to our fathers, saying,

The Holy Spirit

'Go to this people and say:

"Hearing you will hear, and shall not understand;

And seeing you will see, and not perceive;

Isaiah 6:8,9 - Also I **HEARD** the **VOICE** of the **LORD**, saying:

" Whom shall I send,

And who will go for Us?"

Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

And **HE** said, "Go, and tell this people:

'Keep on hearing, but do not understand;

Keep on seeing, but do not perceive.'

Acts 10:4,5 - And when he observed him, he was afraid, and said, "What is it, **LORD**?" So he said to him, "Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial **BEFORE GOD**. Now **SEND** men to Joppa, and **SEND** for Simon whose surname is Peter.

Acts 10:19,20 - While Peter thought about the vision, the **SPIRIT SAID** to him, "Behold, **THREE MEN** are **SEEKING** you. Arise therefore, go down and go with them, doubting nothing; **FOR I HAVE SENT THEM**."

The Holy Spirit

Matt 12:31,32 - "Therefore I say to you, every sin and **BLASPHEMY** will be forgiven men, but the **BLASPHEMY** against the **SPIRIT** will not be forgiven men. Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever **SPEAKS AGAINST** the **HOLY SPIRIT**, it **WILL NOT** be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come."

What are the characteristics of Deity ascribed to the Holy Spirit in the Word?

Job 33:4 - The Spirit of God has **MADE** me,

And the **BREATH** of the Almighty **GIVES ME LIFE**.

Psalms 139:7 - **WHERE CAN I GO** from Your Spirit?

Or **WHERE CAN I FLEE** from Your presence?

Hebrews 9:14 - how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the **ETERNAL SPIRIT** offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?