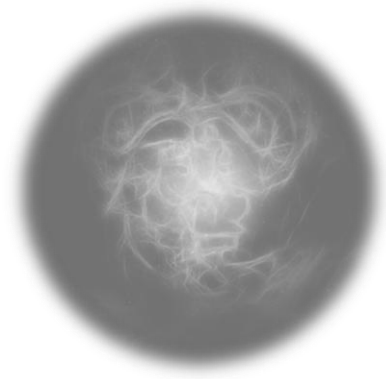


Ministry Of The Holy Spirit

The Breath of God: Understanding the Invisible

10.21.15



The two primary words used in Scripture to describe the Holy Spirit are:

1. Hebrew “ruah” (OT)
2. Greek “pneuma” (NT)

Recall, the term “neshamah” is also used in the OT to denote spirit.

The three primary translations for these words (used in the Scriptures) are:

1. BREATH
2. WIND
3. SPIRIT

Remember, John 3 taught us that – whatever is born of flesh is flesh and whatever is born of Spirit is spirit (v. 6). When we try to describe “spirit” then, we have to envision something that is (in a way) “opposite” flesh. This gives us some insight on “flesh warreth (lusteth) against the spirit” (Galatians 5:17) text. Describe some things that flesh is (and discern what spirit is in opposition):

FLESH

OPPOSITION TO FLESH (SPIRIT)

When we refer to the human spirit, we are referring to the INNERMOST part of man (which is the eternal part of man) – See: **1. Ecclesiastes 12:7** **2. Job 32:8**

Remember, God breathed into man the breath of life (BREATH/WIND/SPIRIT) = His Breath (Genesis 2:7) and man lived (was quickened = became a living soul/being). When God breathed into Adam we believe a spirit was formed in Him. The Spirit has “QUICKENING” (life-giving/eternal) power. Therefore, man has eternity in him ! Our three-part nature (tripartite nature) helps us in our effort to discern God as a Holy Trinity. Imagine now what it means that we were made in God’s image and after His likeness (Genesis 1:26). We can look at man’s spirit as a kind of “house” for the Spirit of God to dwell !

So, we see that the Spirit of God inhabits the INNER/INVISIBLE part of man. The Spirit's work is done on the inside which then manifests on the outside.

Name some Inner Things:

“attitude” (emotions)

What is the implication of the definition of spirit as (breath + wind + spirit) to our actions, behaviors, conduct ?



Imagine what Romans 8:11 is really saying to us:

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.

Look at some verses that help us understand the Scriptural principle of “spirit.”

Proverbs 20:27 The spirit of man *is* the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly.

Luke 3:22 And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.

John 1:32-33 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him.

And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.