



The Holy Spirit, He is God

I want to share with you about the Holy Spirit. I woke up one morning recently experiencing the presence of the Lord in an unusual way. I began to pray in tongues. Usually, I don't spend a long time praying in tongues, but I couldn't stop that morning. After about an hour and a half, I heard a Hebrew song from *Isaiah 61* in my spirit that I haven't sung in years. *"The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD has anointed me to preach good tidings to the meek; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;"* Yeshua read these very well-known scriptures in the synagogue when He came into His public ministry. The Holy Spirit was upon the Son of God to fulfill these words. In His humanity, Yeshua did absolutely nothing without the Spirit of God.

As I started singing *Isaiah 61*, I suddenly felt the presence of the Holy Spirit upon me and I heard the Lord tell me that we, His body, have neglected the third Person of the Godhead. We have not paid enough attention to Him. We have not obeyed Him. I was convicted and I began to repent for:

1) grieving the Holy Spirit. In *Ephesians 4:30*, it says, *"Do not grieve the Holy Spirit:"* *"Μη λυπείτε το Πνεύμα το Άγιο."* In Greek μη λυπείτε/don't grieve, means don't make the Holy Spirit sad and sorrowful because of your bad behavior, bad words, lying and more.

2) quenching the Holy Spirit. *1 Thessalonians 5:19*, says *"Don't quench the Holy Spirit:"* *"Το Πνεύμα να μη το σβήνετε."* To quench Him/σβήνετε in Greek means to put Him out completely like putting out a fire! I began to repent because I realized that, although I am filled with the Holy Spirit and I speak in other tongues, I knew that the Holy Spirit has been grieved and quenched in us, His Ekklesia. I saw that we have left Him outside the front door and we're not letting Him in as GOD.

I cried out, *"The Holy Spirit is God! He is GOD!"* He's not just a tingly experience. He's not just speaking in tongues, not just a gift! The Holy Spirit is God Almighty. He is the third Person of the Godhead and we are to treat Him the same way we treat Jesus and Abba, our Father in heaven. No different. When the fire of the Lord fell on the restored altar at Mount Carmel, at the prayer of Elijah, the Israelites cried out, *"The Lord, He is God! The Lord, He is God!"* The Israelites had been following Baal. The God of Israel came down as fire on the restored altar revealing Himself again as God and bringing conviction. The people fell on their faces shouting, *"The Lord, He is God"* and turned back to Him. *1 Kings 18:20-40*. We too need a fresh revelation of the Holy Spirit as God Almighty!

Stephen cried out to the Pharisees, *"You're always resisting the Holy Spirit!"* *Acts 7:51*. Yet, it's not just the Pharisees or Israel who are resisting the Holy Spirit, but it's also His Ekklesia. Even we Pentecostals and Charismatics who think we have a monopoly on the Holy Spirit, and know how to stir up a meeting in order to make something "happen," have not permitted the Holy Spirit to operate in His omnipotence or embraced Him fully as God in our midst. I believe we too are opposing the Holy Spirit and not giving Him His place as deity, as Lord.

When Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit looked up, he saw heaven open and the glory of God. *Acts 7:55*. The Holy Spirit connects us with heaven. We don't see the manifestation of the glory of Yeshua or the throne when we are not filled with the Holy Spirit and so we have built earthly religious systems which any reasonably smart person can build, even without God. The Holy Spirit had said, *"What house will you build for Me? Has not my hand made all these things?"* *Acts 7:49-50; Isaiah 66:1-2*

When I was a young believer, I went with a team to Portugal for a Reinhard Bonnke Fire Conference and one night the Holy Spirit appeared to me face to face in the sky as a Person. He didn't have a physical body like Yeshua, but He was God as a Person in a spiritual form. He was beautiful and when I looked into His face, I could see Yeshua, through the face of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit points to Yeshua and glorifies Him. He doesn't point to Himself or to anyone else. When I looked into the face of the Holy Spirit, I saw Jesus and I sobbed. I felt the grief of the Holy Spirit because we have not allowed Him to do what He came to do: to conform us to the Son.

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, as by the Spirit of the Lord. 2 Corinthians 3:18

We cry out for gifts and miracles, but we have grieved and quenched Him, and so He's been silent and not operating in the fulness that He desires. The Holy Spirit spoke to me as I looked into His face that evening at the Fire Conference and said, "Do you want the gift or the Giver?" Out of the depths of my being I said, "I want the Giver!" The moment I said that, the mighty power of God came upon me and I was even healed of an ailment in my body. When we have the Giver, all that He has is ours. Beloved, do you want the gift or the Giver? Whether consciously or unconsciously, I believe that many of us have desired the gift and not the Giver, because if we had desired the Giver, then all that He has would have been ours. Beloved, it's an attitude of the heart. He's not just wind on our faces. He's not just goose bumps on our skin. He's not just power. He's a Person and He commands the same honor and glory that the Father and the Son command from all humanity.

If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children: how much more shall your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit (God Himself) to them that ask Him. Luke 11:13

We need to repent and say, "I'm sorry, Holy Spirit for treating you as a gift, as a blessing and an experience but not treating You as God." When I saw the Holy Spirit, He was so beautiful and childlike, so gentle and sensitive. I knew I could easily hurt Him. I knew I could grieve Him. I knew I could quench His fire. Have you ever noticed that when you talk to a little child in a harsh or unloving way, he runs away? That's what the Holy Spirit was like when I saw Him! I knew that I could cause Him to easily "flee away."

Why are we not seeing a big harvest? The Word says, "*Nobody can confess Jesus Christ as Lord without the Holy Spirit.*" 1 Corinthians 12:3

We need the Holy Spirit to draw the lost to confess Yeshua as Lord. It's not that He has left us, for He says, "*I will never leave you nor forsake you.*" (Hebrews 13:5) but we have grieved and quenched Him and He cannot manifest as God until we treat Him as God. We need to repent so that the Holy Spirit will again begin operating as Almighty God.

"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." The Spirit IS the Lord! 2 Corinthians 3:17. We've been treating the Holy Spirit as less than the Lord, less than the Father and the Son. We must obey the Holy Spirit the same way we obey Yeshua and the Father. This region of the Bible lands was on fire with the presence of the Holy Spirit in the early Ekklesia. Greece became a believing nation in the God of Israel because the Holy Spirit was present as God. Apostle Paul didn't merely represent God on his journeys. The Holy Spirit stood beside Paul and spoke through him and the idols plummeted to the ground! That's God! That's not just a gift, beloved.

In chapter 5 of the Book of Acts, Peter said to Ananias and Sapphira, "You haven't lied to men, you've lied to the Holy Spirit." He was saying you are lying to God Almighty! Peter was conscious of the manifest presence of the Spirit of the Lord, so concerned that they wouldn't lose that presence. The early believers had been in one accord. They were

one. Nobody had any lack. The fear of the Lord was on them. People all over the city knew who they were because the Holy Spirit was so active. The fear of God, one of the attributes of the Holy Spirit, was upon all. We pray, "Lord, give us the fear of God," but we're not going to have the fear of God if the Holy Spirit doesn't manifest in our midst. The Holy Spirit brings the fear of God.

The Lord says to the seven Churches, *"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the Ekklesia."* It's the Spirit of the Lord that was speaking to the seven Churches saying, *"You've left your first love. You're lukewarm."* It's the Spirit that warned the seven churches. Jesus had said, *"If I go to the Father, it's better for you. I will send the Holy Spirit to you and He will be with you and in you."* We need the Holy Spirit. *Revelation 3; John 16:7; John 14:17*

All these things the Holy Spirit did, the One who was sent to be with us and in us. Don't leave Him outside. Welcome Him in, treat Him as God and not just as a nice experience or a good feeling.

If the Holy Spirit is God, and He is, He must be revered, obeyed and adored as Deity.

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