

# The Identity of the Holy Spirit

In Acts 19:1-2, Paul came across some men who were confused about the Holy Spirit. Many today are just as confused. Some say that the Holy Spirit is nothing more than a feeling or experience. Others suggest that He is nothing more than a mythical and indefinable substance or the active force of God.

What does the Bible tell us about the identity of the Holy Spirit?

## **He goes by many names.**

- The "Holy Spirit" – Matthew 28:19
- The "Helper" or "Comforter" – John 14:16
- "The Spirit of the Father" – Matthew 10:20
- "The Spirit of the Lord" – Luke 4:18
- "The Spirit of the living God" – 2 Corinthians 3:3
- "The Spirit of grace" – Hebrews 10:29
- "The Spirit of Truth" – John 14:17
- "The Spirit of Christ" – 1 Peter 1:11
- "The Spirit of God" – Genesis 1:2; Matthew 3:16
- God – Acts 5:4

## **He is a Person in the Godhead.**

- He has all of the attributes of personhood and personality (John 16:12-15).
- He speaks (1 Timothy 4:1).
- He grieves (Ephesians 4:29).
- He is insulted (Hebrews 10:29).
- He guides (2 Peter 1:20-21).
- He forbids (Acts 16:6).
- He possesses knowledge (1 Corinthians 2:9-11).
- He possesses will (1 Corinthians 12:11).
- He is sinned against (Acts 5:4; 1 Thessalonians 5:19; Matthew 12:31).

## **He possesses all the attributes of deity.**

- He possessed creative power and had an active role in the creation (Genesis 1:2).
- He is omnipresent (Psalm 139:7-12).
- He is all-knowing (1 Corinthians 2:10).
- He is eternal (Hebrews 9:13-14).

## **He is one with the other members of the Godhead.**

- There are three Persons of deity who make up the Godhead (Acts 17:29; Romans 1:20).
- Those in the Godhead are one in agreement, purpose, and action.
- Believers are also one (John 17:20-21). Married couples are also to be one (Matthew 19:6).

## **Why is this important?**

- We cannot truly know who God is without also knowing who the Holy Spirit is!
- Those who believe lies about the Holy Spirit eventually find themselves adopting all forms of religious error.

## **Conclusion:**

Let us always respect what the Holy Spirit has revealed about Himself.