

The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit

We believe the Holy Spirit is a person who convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; and, that He is the Supernatural Agent in regeneration, indwelling the believer and sealing them unto the day of redemption (**John 16:8-11; Rom. 8:9; I Cor. 12:12-14; 2 Cor. 3:6; Eph. 1:13-14**). We believe that the Holy Spirit is the Divine Teacher who assists believers to understand and to appropriate the Scriptures and that it is the privilege and duty of all the saved to be filled with the Spirit (**Eph. 1:17-18; 5:18; 1 John 2:20,27**). We also believe that God is sovereign in the bestowal of spiritual gifts to every believer. Therefore, the Holy Spirit uniquely uses evangelists, pastors, and teachers to equip believers in the assembly in order that they can do the work of the ministry (**Rom. 12:3-8; 1 Cor. 12:4-11, 28; Eph. 4:7-12**). We believe that the sign gifts of the Holy Spirit, such as speaking in tongues and the gift of healing were temporary. We believe that speaking in tongues in light of today's terminology was never the common or necessary sign of the baptism or filling of the Holy Spirit. The ultimate deliverance from sickness or death awaits the consummation of our salvation in the resurrection, though God can and does, at various times choose to answer prayers of believers for physical healing (**1 Cor. 1:22; 13:8; 14:21-22**).