

In a Barna survey in 1997, 61% of US residents surveyed agreed with the statement that the Holy Spirit is "a symbol of God's presence or power, but is not a living entity".

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May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion,

2 CORINTHIANS 13:14, PHILIPPIANS 2:1

The Holy Spirit is God

He is eternal, having neither beginning nor end

Hebrews 9:14 - who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God

He is omnipotent, having all power

Luke 1:35 The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you)

He is omnipresent, being everywhere at the same time

Psalm 139:7 Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

He is omniscient, understanding all matters

1 Cor 2:10,11 10 these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.

He is the Lord the member of the Godhead

currently leading the church

2 Corinthians 3:17 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD

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A Seal, A Deposit, A Guarantee

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

EPHESIANS 1:13-14

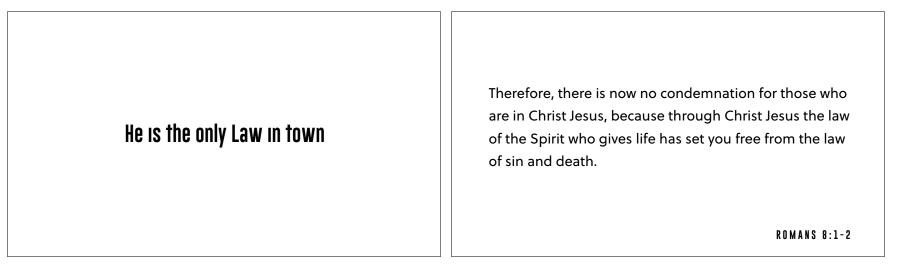
Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

2 CORINTHIANS 1:21-22

2 CORINTHIANS 5:4-5

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But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law....But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

GALATIANS 5:18-22

Do not be deceived:

God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

GALATIANS 6:7

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We can choose our response to Him

Poor responses include:

He can be resisted

Acts 7:51 "You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: You always resist the Holy Spirit!

He can be lied to and tested

Acts 5:3 Then Peter said, "Ananias, . . . you have lied to the Holy Spirit. . . Acts 5:9 Peter said to her, "How could you agree to test the Spirit of the Lord?

POSSIBLE RESPONSES TO HIM - POOR RESPONSES

He can be vexed, displeased

Isaiah 63:10 Yet they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit. So he turned and became their enemy and he himself fought against them.

He can be insulted

Hebrews 10:29 How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace?

POSSIBLE RESPONSES TO HIM - POOR RESPONSES

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He can be blasphemed

Matthew 12:31 And so I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but anyone who speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.

POSSIBLE RESPONSES TO HIM - POOR RESPONSES

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He can be obeyed

1 John 3:24 Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

He can be waited upon

Acts 1:4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

POSSIBLE RESPONSES TO HIM - GREAT RESPONSES

We can choose our response to Him

Great responses include:

He can be pleased

Gal 6:8 The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

He can be given control

Rom 8:5 Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace;

POSSIBLE RESPONSES TO HIM - GREAT RESPONSES

His nature can be manifested through us

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires.

He can be kept in step with

Gal 5:25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

POSSIBLE RESPONSES TO HIM - GREAT RESPONSES

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