

引言 INTRODUCTION

Today, we begin a three-part series on the study of the Holy Spirit. When I became a Christian over 40 years ago, I knew very little about the Holy Spirit. I thought the Holy Spirit is a force, through which God accomplishes His work. Perhaps I watch too many Sci-Fi movies! There is a misconception among churches. Some pastors are afraid to teach about the Holy Spirit, lest their members will go charismatic. Therefore, they would rather say nothing about it. They are like those parents who never speak about boy and girl relationship and drugs. However, if kids do not get the right concepts from their dad and mom, they may believe what the social media or their friends tell them. Correct knowledge will steer us to the right direction. We can discern what is wrong if we know what God sees as true. Passages about the Holy Spirit are widespread throughout the Bible. Today, we will cover a few general topics.

解釋 EXPLANATION

1. 聖靈的身份 Who is the Holy Spirit?

The fundamental truth we need to know is who is the Holy Spirit? The simple answer is that the Holy Spirit is God. Christians believe in the Trinity God. The Father is God, Jesus Christ is God and the Holy Spirit is also God. However, the Bible clearly states that there is only one true God. Therefore, theologians came up with the term “Trinity” to describe the status. The three parts of the Trinity are called three “persons.” Mormons or Jehovah Witnesses are correct that the word “Trinity” cannot be found in the Bible. But the concept is in the book. It is a fact, much like we eat chicken even though the word does not appear in the Bible. Since the Holy Spirit is God, He shares the same glory, power and attributes with the Father and with Jesus Christ. Let us look at some Bible passages that prove the identity of the Holy Spirit.

A. 被尊崇 Revered

First, the Holy Spirit is to be revered. He deserves the same honor as the Father and the Son. Some Bible verses put the three titles on the same level. We hear 2 Corinthians 13:14 almost everything Sunday: **The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.** We cite this verse at the end of a service. A pastor is not quoting the words from famous people to inspire the congregation. He wishes the Trinity God to bless everyone. Only God has the power to preserve the well-being of His people. Another familiar verse where all three names of the Trinity are presented is in Matthew 28:19, in which Jesus says: **“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”** We use baptism to affirm the faith of the candidates. They believe in the Trinity God. We also acknowledge the authority of the church is given by God. Those who baptize in our church are not just FCBC members, but they also admit that they are Jesus’ followers. According to these two verses, the Holy Spirit is equal to the Father and the Son. He is to be revered as God.

B. 遭棄絕 Rejected

However, the Holy Spirit is rejected by many. We see an example in Acts 5. Some believers voluntarily sold all they had and shared everything with others. A couple did the same thing. But they were dishonest. Peter confronts the husband in verse 3: ...“Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land?” The couple said they had offered all their money but in fact they held back a portion. Compared this verse to the next: ...“You have not lied to man but to God.” Peter says lying to the Holy Spirit is the same as lying to God. It implies that the Holy Spirit is God. We can also refer to Mark 3:29-30 – 29 “But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin” – 30 for they were saying, “He has an unclean spirit.” Some teachers saw Jesus cast out demons. They attributed Jesus’ power to Satan, although they knew that His power came from the Holy Spirit. The Lord said it was unthinkable for Satan to fight against his servants. He said those leaders could not be forgiven, not because God is unwilling to forgive them but because they would not admit their sins. Rejecting the power of the Holy Spirit is equal to rejecting the Savior. Perhaps you are not convinced that Jesus is God or you still have doubts on certain truths. Just keep searching. Jesus welcomes sincere seekers.

C. 受抗拒 Resisted

The Holy Spirit should be revered, but He can be rejected. Also, He can be resisted. Rejection and resistance are different things. Suppose a person does not like his boss. He can reject his supervisor and quit the job. He can also stay with the company, but resist the leader’s orders. The boss asks the person to compile a report by 5 p.m. But he excuses that he cannot get it done until the next day. A non-believer can reject the calling of the Holy Spirit to salvation. Only those who submit to Him can be saved. God then restores our title as His children. However, He does not make us into robots. We can resist the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Paul reminds in Ephesians 4:30 – And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. In the context, Paul describes the transition we go through when we receive Jesus as taking off our old self and putting on a new self. Picture it like wearing clean clothes after a shower. After we became Christians, we must rely on the power of the Holy Spirit to live a godly life. If we intentionally commit sin, we grieve the Holy Spirit, much like children break the hearts of their parents when they disobey. God shows us grace if we humbly confess to Him.

2. 聖靈的工作 What does the Holy Spirit Do?

After clarifying who the Holy Spirit is, next we need to ask what does He do? We will bring up some general aspects today. We will talk more about the works of the Holy Spirit related to our salvation the next two weeks.

A. 萬物的創造 Creation of Everything

The Holy Spirit was involved in the creation of everything. His name is mentioned in the first chapter of the Bible. Look at Genesis 1:1-2 – 1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. The Holy Spirit existed before the creation. It proves that He is God. With regard to the 6th day of creation, the Scripture says in

verse 26: **Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...”** Notice the use of pronouns “us” and “our” here. It implies that more than one person of the Trinity took part in the creation process. Psalm 33:6 provides further information: **By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host.** The word “breath” here is the same Hebrew word for “Spirit” in Genesis 1:2. In sum, we can deduce that God made the universe through the Holy Spirit. Not only did the Holy Spirit create everything, He also recreates us and gives us a new life in Jesus Christ. Regardless of our background, we are precious in God’s eye.

B. 與耶穌連結 Communion with Jesus

The Holy Spirit created everything. He also had communion with Jesus in His earthly ministries. Matthew 3:16 tells us: **And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him.** The Holy Spirit fell onto Jesus at His baptism. Right after that, Jesus began His gospel work. The Holy Spirit gave His support to Jesus. But it is more than friends and family cheering you up at a sport competition or music performance. The Holy Spirit strengthened Jesus too. See Luke 4:18-19 – **18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”** Jesus was reading from Isaiah 61. What the prophet foretold had been fulfilled in Jesus. The anointing of the Holy Spirit gave Jesus authority to heal the sick and release people from the bondage of sin. The same Holy Spirit also has communion with believers. He gives them the power to share the gospel and to lead people to receive Jesus.

C. 聖經的編寫 Composition of the Bible

The Holy Spirit created everything and had communion with Jesus. Moreover, the Holy Spirit directed the composition of the Bible. Paul says in 2 Timothy 3:16 – **All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.** Just like the Hebrew word, the Greek word for “breathe” can also mean “Spirit.” Paul is saying that writers composed the Bible through the Holy Spirit. Today, we say that an artist gets an inspiration to create art-works, whether it is a painting, a song or a book. In comparison, God put messages into authors’ minds. Each person in turn freely expressed the content in his own style. For example, Peter and John were fishermen and so they use simple words. Whereas, Paul was a scholar, and he could explain deep theological concepts. There were over 40 men who spent about 1,500 years to finish composing the Bible. However, they wrote about the same God with identical attributes and characters, and He has the same promises and intents for mankind. The Holy Spirit is the director behind those human writers. Ultimately, the Bible is the Word of God. It contains all the information we need to know about God and to believe in Him. It has the power to change lives. It also includes the instructions we need to live a holy life.

3. 聖靈的出現 When does the Holy Spirit Come?

So far we have learned who the Holy Spirit is and some of the works He does. The Holy Spirit exists forever. But when does He come to mankind and interact with us?

A. 應許 Promise

Jesus promised the disciples that the Holy Spirit would arrive. Look at John 14:16-17 – 16 “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth...” Jesus called the Holy Spirit the “Helper.” The word refers to an assistant, an advocate or a defense attorney who provides help. Jesus was about to be arrested the same night, and be nailed to the cross the next day. He knew that the disciples would be devastated, afraid and confused. Jesus comforted them by saying that the Holy Spirit was coming and He would be with them forever. He would guide them in future gospel works. An invisible Helper would take over the work of the visible Teacher. Today, we receive the same promise. The Holy Spirit lives in us the moment we accept Jesus. Once enters, He will stay forever. Salvation is not only about going to heaven when we leave the world. It is also about how we spend the rest of our life as Jesus’ followers. The Holy Spirit is our Helper. He helps us understand the Bible and apply the truths in daily life. He also guides us in the path of righteousness, convicts us when we sin and nudges us to repent.

B. 內住 Presence

The Holy Spirit came just as Jesus promised. It confirms His presence in believers. Acts 2:2-4 record: 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. Many Jews gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate the Pentecost. The Holy Spirit came as a wind. He fell onto Christians in the form of a fire. They started talking in a foreign language they had never learned. The Bible calls that “speaking in tongue.” The Jews who came from other places were shocked to hear local people speak in their dialects. Peter explained that the prophecy from Joel was fulfilled. God foretold that one day He would pour out His Spirit over people. As a result, there would be supernatural signs. From then on, the Holy Spirit will dwell onto people the moment they receive Jesus. However, it does not mean that every believer will speak in tongue. It is just one of the many spiritual gifts the Holy Spirit gives believers. There are other gifts such as teaching the Bible, encouraging and serving others. God decides what gifts to bless each person with so that they can serve in the church.

結論 CONCLUSION

The Holy Spirit is God. He had been present before the world existed. The key question is: is the Holy Spirit in you? It is not a mysterious experience like possession by an evil spirit. He is the Spirit of truth. He only does things according to the Bible. Among other things, He gives us joy when we feel depressed, gives us hope when we are unclear of the future and gives us wisdom to deal with difficult people. He allows us to live a supernatural life. It does not mean we can perform miracles like Jesus does. But the Holy Spirit will transform our lives beyond our normal nature. He gives us courage to apologize to people we offended, gives us boldness to share the gospel and gives us endurance to go through trials. There are two possibilities if you cannot feel the works of the Holy Spirit. Perhaps you are not a believer. Then you should confess your sins and accept God’s salvation grace by faith. Perhaps you are a believer, but you still live in your own way and not God’s way. You should submit to the Holy Spirit and let Him take over.

引言 INTRODUCTION

從今天開始，我們用三週的時間學習有關聖靈的事情。四十多年前，當我成為基督徒時，我對聖靈所知甚少。我以為聖靈是一股力量，是神用來成就祂工作的能力。也許我看了太多科幻電影！某些教會有一個誤解。有些牧師不願意教導聖靈的真理，他們擔心信徒會走向靈恩派。因此，他們寧願不講。他們就像一些家長，從來不跟小孩說男女關係和毒品這些課題。問題是，如果孩子沒有從父母那裡獲得正確的觀念，他們可能會相信社交媒體或是朋友的說法。正確的知識會引導我們走向正確的方向。如果我們清楚什麼是真理，我們就能分辨出什麼是錯誤的教導。在聖經裡有許多關於聖靈的經文。今天，我們將討論一些普遍的題目。

解釋 EXPLANATION

1. 聖靈的身份 Who is the Holy Spirit?

我們最基本需要知道的是聖靈的身份。簡單的答案是，聖靈是神。基督徒相信三位一體的神。聖父是神，耶穌基督是神，聖靈也是神。然而，聖經清楚地指出只有一位真神。因此，神學家們創造了「三位一體」這個用詞來形容那個狀態。三位一體的三個部分被稱為三個「位格」。摩門教徒或耶和華見證人說得對，在聖經中找不到「三位一體」這個詞語。但聖經裡確實有這個概念。這是事實，就像我們吃雞肉一樣，雖然聖經沒有提到雞這種動物。因為聖靈是神，祂與聖父和耶穌分享同樣的榮耀、權柄和屬性。讓我們看一些經文來證明聖靈的身份。

A. 被尊崇 Revered

首先，聖靈應當被尊崇。祂配得與聖父、聖子同等的榮耀。有一些經文把三個稱號放在同等的地位。我們幾乎每個星期天都會聽到哥林多後書 13:14：**願主耶穌基督的恩惠、神的慈愛、聖靈的感動，常與你們眾人同在！**我們在崇拜結束時朗讀這節經文。牧師並非引用名人的話來激勵會眾，而是希望三位一體的神祝福每個人。唯有神才有能力保守祂的子民。另一段同時出現三位一體真神的經文是馬太福音 28:19，耶穌說：**「所以，你們要去，使萬民作我的門徒，奉父、子、聖靈的名給他們施洗。」**我們用浸禮來確認信徒的信仰。他們相信三位一體的神。我們也承認教會的權柄是神賜予的。在我們教會接受浸禮的人不僅成為孟菲斯第一華人浸信會的會友，他們也承認自己是耶穌的跟隨者。根據這兩節經文，聖靈與聖父、聖子同等，當被尊崇為神。

B. 遭棄絕 Rejected

然而，聖靈遭受許多人的棄絕。我們在使徒行傳第 5 章看到一個例子。有些信徒自願變賣他們的財產，與其他人分享資源。一對夫婦也做了同樣的事情。但他們並不誠實。彼得在第 3 節中質問那位丈夫：...「亞拿尼亞！為什麼撒但充滿了你的心，叫你欺哄聖靈，把田地的價銀私自留下幾分呢？」這對夫婦說他們已經奉獻了所有的錢，但實際上他們偷偷地留下了一部分。我們把這節經文與下一節經文作比較：...「你不是欺哄人，是欺哄神了。」彼得說欺哄聖靈就等於欺哄神。這表明聖靈就是神。我們也可以參考馬可福音 3:29-30 – 29「凡褻瀆聖靈的，卻永不得赦免，乃要擔當永遠的罪。」30 這話是因為他們說：「他是被污鬼附著的。」有些聖經老師看見耶穌趕鬼。他們把耶穌的能力歸給撒但，雖然他們知道耶穌的能力是來自聖靈。主說撒但和他的僕人互相攻擊是難以想像的。祂說那些領袖得不到赦免，不是因為神不願意饒恕他們，而是因為他們不會承認自己的罪。否定聖靈的能力就等於棄絕救主。也許你還不相信耶穌是神，或者你對某些真理仍然有疑惑。希望你繼續尋問，因為耶穌歡迎真誠尋求祂的人。

C. 受抗拒 Resisted

聖靈應當被尊崇，但祂也可能遭人棄絕。另外，祂也會受人抗拒。棄絕和抗拒有些不同。假設一個人不喜歡他的老闆，他可以棄絕他的上司並辭職。他也可以留在公司，但抗拒領導的命令。老闆要求這個人在下午 5 點前完成一份報告，但他藉口說第二天才能完成。非信徒可以棄絕聖靈得救的呼召。只有順服祂的人才能得救。當我們接受耶穌之後，神便恢復我們作為祂兒女的名份。然而，祂不會把我們變成機器人。我們可以抗拒聖靈的引導。保羅在以弗所書 4:30 提醒我們：不要叫神的聖靈擔憂；你們原是受了祂的印記，等候得贖的日子來到。在上下文中，保羅將我們接受耶穌後所經歷的轉變描述為脫去舊人，穿上新人。這就像洗完澡後穿上乾淨的衣服。我們成為基督徒之後，必須倚靠聖靈的能力，才能過聖潔的生活。如果我們故意犯罪，就會令聖靈擔憂。就像孩子不聽話，令父母難過一樣。如果我們謙卑地向神認罪，神就會饒恕我們。

2. 聖靈的工作 What does the Holy Spirit Do?

在弄清楚聖靈的身份之後，接下來我們看看聖靈的工作。今天我們會討論一些基本的課題。接下來的兩週，我們會學習聖靈與我們得救相關的工作。

A. 萬物的創造 Creation of Everything

聖靈參與萬物的創造。祂的名字在聖經第一章就出現了。請看創世記 1:1-2 – 1 起初，神創造天地。2 地是空虛混沌，淵面黑暗；神的靈運行在水面上。聖靈在創世之前就已經存在。這證明祂是神。關於第六天的創造，聖經在第 26 節說：神說：

「我們要照著我們的形像、按著我們的樣式造人…。」請注意這裡使用了複數的代名詞：「我們」、「我們的」。這意味著三位一體的真神中不只一位參與了創造的過程。另外，詩篇 33:6 提供了更多的資訊：諸天藉耶和華的命而造；萬象藉他口中的氣而成。這裡的「氣」與創世記 1:2 中的「靈」在希伯來文是同一個字。我們可以推斷，神藉著聖靈創造了宇宙。聖靈不僅創造了萬物，也重生我們，在耶穌基督裡賜給我們新生命。無論我們的背景如何，在神眼中，我們都是寶貴的。

B. 與耶穌連結 Communion with Jesus

聖靈創造了萬物。祂也與耶穌連結，幫助祂在地上的事工。馬太福音 3:16 告訴我們：耶穌受了洗，隨即從水裡上來。天忽然為祂開了，祂就看見神的靈彷彿鴿子降下，落在祂身上。聖靈在耶穌受洗時降臨在祂身上。然後，耶穌就開始了福音工作。聖靈支持耶穌。但這不像朋友和家人在運動比賽或音樂表演中為你加油打氣。聖靈也加添耶穌力量。請看路加福音 4:18-19 – 18「主的靈在我身上，因為他用膏膏我，叫我傳福音給貧窮的人；差遣我報告：被擄的得釋放，瞎眼的得看見，叫那受壓制的得自由，19 報告神悅納人的禧年。」耶穌是在讀以賽亞書第 61 章。先知的預言已經應驗在耶穌身上。聖靈的恩膏給予耶穌權柄醫治病人和釋放被罪捆綁的人。同樣的聖靈也與信徒連結，賜給他們能力傳福音，帶領人接受耶穌。

C. 聖經的編寫 Composition of the Bible

聖靈創造了萬物，並與耶穌連結。此外，聖靈也指導了聖經的編寫。保羅在提摩太後書 3:16 說：聖經都是神所默示的，於教訓、督責、使人歸正、教導人學義都是有益的。這裡「默示」在希臘文的意思是吹氣。就像希伯來文一樣，「吹氣」的希臘文也可以指「靈」。保羅的意思是，作者在聖靈的指導下編寫聖經。今天，我們說藝術家得到靈感來創作藝術品，無論是繪畫、歌曲或寫書。相比之下，神將信息放在作者的腦海中，然後每個人按照自己的風格表達內容。例如，彼得和約翰是漁夫，所以他們的用詞比較簡單。而保羅是一位學者，他可以解釋深奧的神學概念。聖經有 40 多位作者，寫作時期達 1,500 年之久。然而，他們所寫的是同一位神，祂擁有相同的屬性和品格。祂對人類也有同樣的應許和心意。聖神是這些作者背後的指導。最終，聖經是神的話。它包含了我們需要認識神和相信神的一切信息。它有能力改變生命。它也包括我們過聖潔生活的所有內容。

3. 聖靈的出現 When does the Holy Spirit Come?

到目前為止，我們了解到聖靈的身份，以及祂的一些工作。聖靈永遠存在。但是，祂什麼時候出現在人間並與我們互動呢？

A. 應許 Promise

耶穌應許門徒，聖靈會降臨。請看約翰福音 14:16-17：16「我要求父，父就另外賜給你們一位保惠師，叫他永遠與你們同在，17 就是真理的聖靈…。」耶穌稱聖靈為「保惠師」。這個字的意思是助手、發言人或辯護律師。聖靈給予我們幫助。耶穌當天晚上就要被逮捕，隔天就要被釘在十字架上。祂知道門徒會感到震驚、恐懼和困惑。耶穌安慰他們，說聖靈即將降臨。祂將永遠與他們同在，並帶領他們完成未來的福音工作。一位看不見的幫手將接替那位看得見的老師的工作。今天，我們也領受同樣的應許。聖靈在我們接受耶穌的那一刻就住在我們裡面。一旦進入，祂就會永遠與我們同在。救恩不只是為了離開世界之後去天堂，也牽涉到我們如何在今生成為耶穌的跟隨者。聖靈是我們的幫手。祂幫助我們明白聖經，並在日常生活中運用真理。祂也引導我們走義路，在我們犯罪時使我們知罪，並催促我們悔改。

B. 內住 Presence

正如耶穌所應許，聖靈降臨了，證實祂住在信徒裡面。使徒行傳 2:2-4 記載：2 忽然，從天上有響聲下來，好像一陣大風吹過，充滿了他們所坐的屋子，3 又有舌頭如火焰顯現出來，分開落在他們各人頭上。4 他們就都被聖靈充滿，按著聖靈所賜的口才說起別國的話來。當時許多猶太人聚集在耶路撒冷慶祝五旬節。聖靈像風一樣降臨，像火一樣落在基督徒身上。他們便說起從未學過的外語。聖經稱為「說方言」。從外地來的猶太人聽到當地人用他們的家鄉話說話，都感到很驚訝。彼得解釋說，約珥的預言應驗了。神預言有一天祂會將祂的靈澆灌在人的身上。於是，就會有超自然的現象。從那時起，聖靈就會在人們接受耶穌的那一刻住在他們裡面。然而，這並不等於每個信徒都會說方言。這只是聖靈賜給信徒的眾多屬靈恩賜之一。還有其他恩賜，例如教導聖經、鼓勵和服事別人。神決定賜給每個人哪些恩賜，使他們能夠在教會中服事。

結論 CONCLUSION

聖靈是神，祂在世界被創造之前就早已存在。關鍵問題是：聖靈在你裡面嗎？這並非像被邪靈附身那樣神祕的經驗。聖靈是真理的靈，祂只按照聖經行事。此外，祂在我們沮喪時賜給我們喜樂，在我們對未來迷茫時賜給我們盼望，並賜給我們智慧去應付難相處的人。祂使我們活出超自然的生命。這並不表示我們能像耶穌那樣行神蹟。但聖靈會改變我們的生命，超越我們的本性。祂賜給我們勇氣，向我們得罪的人道歉，賜給我們膽量去傳福音，並賜給我們忍耐去渡過試煉。如果你感受不到聖靈的作為，有兩種可能。也許你不是信徒。那麼你必須認罪，憑信心接受神的救恩。也許你是信徒，但你仍然按照自己的方式生活，而不是按照神的方式。你應該順服聖靈，讓祂掌管你的生命。