

## The Holy Spirit in Our Conversion

(Gen 1:1-2; 2 Pet 1:21; John 16:7, 8)

### Introduction:

- A. The Holy Spirit's role in conversion remains mystery to many.
  - 1. No doubt about involvement in New Testament conversions.
  - 2. No denying that Holy Spirit involved in conversions today.
- B. The Holy Spirit's role in conversion should become clear by simple comparisons.

### Discussion:

- I. Compare Modern Conversion Stories To New Testament Stories.
  - A. Modern stories tell of Spirit working directly on totally depraved sinner's heart
    - 1. Makes God partial - if does not work on all.
    - 2. Makes God responsible for lost -- if does not change totally depraved heart.
  - B. N. T. stories tell of Spirit working directly on preacher rather than sinner.
    - 1. Pentecost: (v. Acts 2: 4,14,36-38).
    - 2. Ethiopian Eunuch. (Acts 8:29, 38-39)
      - a. Would not have told about angel or Spirit.
      - b. Would not have told about reading, hearing, obeying.
- II. Compare The Holy Spirit Baptism To Conversion Baptism.
  - A. Not in name of Jesus (Acts 8:16) - In name of Jesus (Acts 2:38)
  - B. A promise (Acts 1:4,5) - A command in water (Acts 10:47, 48).
  - C. Administered by God (John 14:26; Acts 1:4) - Administered by man (Matt 28:18-20; Acts 8).
  - D. To guide certain men (John 16:13) - To save or forgive all men (1 Pet. 3:20, 21; Acts 2:38)
- III. Let Us Compare What Holy Spirit Does and What The Word Of God Does.
  - A. Born again of the Spirit (John 3:5) - Born again of word of God. (1 Pet. 1:22,23; Jas. 1:18).
  - B. Sanctified by the Spirit (2 Thess. 2:13) - Sanctified by word. (John 17:17).
  - C. Word of God is the Spirit's sword or tool in our salvation. (Eph. 6:17)
    - 1. Holy Spirit's work in world done by preaching. (cf. John 16:8; Acts 24:25).
    - 2. Holy Spirit inspired men who wrote the Bible (1 Pet. 1:12; Eph. 3:1-5).
    - 3. Holy Spirit pricked hearts of those on Pentecost when they heard word preached.

### Conclusion:

- A. Do not wait for Holy Spirit to act upon you - act upon Spirit's word in N.T.
- B. Do not need to beg God to send Spirit to save you - Spirit already begs us to come. (Rev. 22:17; Lk 11:12-13)