

The Holy Spirit Lesson 3 Conviction And Conversion John 16:1-13

- The question is in the conviction and conversion of the sinner to Christ, **"How does the Holy Spirit exercise his influence upon the heart?"**
- Does he operate immediately (without means) or intermediately (through means)?
- Directly or indirectly?

➤ Our purpose is to show that the Bible teaches that in the conviction and conversion of the sinner to Christ, the Holy Spirit operates upon the sinner's heart through the agency of the Spirit-revealed and Spirit-inspired word of God.

Why So Much Confusion?

- "Man is so depraved that he is unable without the direct enabling power of the Holy Spirit to obey the Gospel of the son of God."
(J.B. Moody, Missionary Baptist, in Nashville Debate)
- "I, by the natural birth am too wicked to live, too sinful to die ... Total Hereditary Depravity means that man in his entire self is bad."
(Albert Garner, Missionary Baptist in The Royal Birth – A Life of Liberty, pages 8-9)

Calvinism Reviewed

- **T**otal Depravity. Ezekiel 18:20; Romans 3:23
- **U**nconditional Election. Ephesians 1:3; Galatians 3:26f
- **L**imited Atonement. Hebrews 2:10
- **I**rresistible Grace. Romans 5:1; Acts 7:51
- **P**erseverance of the Saints. Galatians 5:4; Luke 8; Acts 8; Hebrews 3:12; 1 Corinthians 15:58

Heart Must Be Changed!

- **Jeremiah 17:9**, "*The heart is deceitful above all things, and it is exceedingly corrupt: who can know it?*"
- **Matthew 15:18-20**, "*But the things which proceed out of the mouth come forth out of the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart come forth evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, railings: these are the things which defile the man; but to eat with unwashed hands defileth not the man.*"
- **Acts 15:9**, "*and he made no distinction between us and them, cleansing their hearts by faith.*"

What Is The Heart?

- Thinks. Genesis 6:5; Proverbs 23:7
- Reasons. Mark 2:8
- Understands. Matthew 13:15
- Believes. Acts 8:37; Romans 10:10

Intellect

What Is The Heart?

- Plans and Intends. Hebrews 4:12
- Purposes. 2 Corinthians 9:7
- Executes obedience. Romans 6:17

Will

What Is The Heart?

- Desires. Romans 10:1
- Loves. Matthew 22:37
- Despises. 2 Samuel 6:16
- Trusts. Proverbs 3:5

Emotions

What Is The Heart?

- Pricked. Acts 2:37
- Cut. Acts 5:33; 7:54
- Condemn or approve. 1 John 3:19-21

Conscience

- Corruption begins in the heart. (Matthew 15:18f)
- Salvation must therefore begin in the heart. (Romans 10:10)

➤ **But ...**

- Is this accomplished directly by the Holy Spirit operating on the heart of man or through some medium?

The Holy Spirit Operates Through Divine Truth To Change The Heart Of Man

Old Testament Period

- 2 Samuel 23:2, "*The Spirit of the Lord spake by me, and his word was in my tongue.*"
- The Hebrew writer ascribes the words of David (Psalms 95:7-10) to the Holy Spirit – Hebrews 3:7-11.
- Peter said the words of David were by the Holy Spirit – Acts 1:16, "*Brethren, it was needful that the scriptures should be fulfilled which the Holy Spirit spake before by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who was guide to them that took Jesus.*"
- Nehemiah 9:30, "*Yet many years didst thou forebear them and testifiedst against them by thy Spirit in thy prophets.*"
- 1 Peter 1:9-11 – Peter testifies concerning the prophets.
- 2 Peter 1:21, "*For prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.*" (KJV)

The Holy Spirit Operates Through The Gospel (Divine Truth) To Change The Heart Of Man

New Testament Period

- Ephesians 3:1-5
- Revelation 3:6, "*He that hath an ear let him hear what the Spirit saith to the churches.*"
- 1 Peter 1:12 – Peter said that he and others "*preached the gospel unto you by the Holy Spirit sent forth from heaven.*"
- Romans 1:16-17, "*For I am not ashamed of the gospel: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is revealed a righteousness of God from faith unto faith: as it is written, But the righteous shall live by faith.*"

What Is The Gospel?

•FACTS to be believed.

cf. Mark 1:14-15; Romans 1:16-17;
John 20:30-31; Romans 3:23ff;
Titus 1:2-3; Acts 2

What Is The Gospel?

•COMMANDMENTS to be obeyed.

- 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9; cf. Romans 2:8-9
- Faith – John 8:24; Mark 1:14-15
 - Repentance – Acts 17:30-31; Luke 13:3;
Romans 6:12
 - Confession – Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10;
cf. Acts 8:37
 - Baptism – Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38;
Galatians 3:26-27
 - Faithfulness – Revelation 2:10;
1 Corinthians 15:58; cf. 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

What Is The Gospel?

•PROMISES in which to trust.

Romans 8:24-25; Hebrews 6:15-16