

Lord, Teach Us to Pray

Chapter 25 – The Ways of God's Spirit

Park Plaza Brookside * Fireside Room

May 8, 2016



HAPPY

*Mother's
Day*

PROVERBS 1:8-9

Park Plaza – Men's Canoe & Camping Trip



The Mystery of the Trinity

- God
- Jesus
- Holy Spirit (a.k.a. Holy Ghost)

The Mystery of the Trinity

- Compared to an Apple
 - The outside peel
 - The meaty, fleshy part
 - The core
- Three distinct parts, but still an Apple!

Quick Survey

- How many sermons have you heard on the Holy Spirit?
- How many Sunday school lessons have you sat through on the Holy Spirit?
- How many personal Bible studies have you had on the Holy Spirit?
- Do you think or feel that you have an exhaustive understanding of the Holy Spirit?

Quick Survey

- Why do we not “understand” the Holy Spirit better?
- Is it because the term in the KJV is “Holy Ghost”?
- Are we afraid of “Ghosts” – holy or unholy?
- Is it because we are afraid of turning the Holy Spirit into some mystical object – like a genie’s lamp or voo-doo doll?
- Is it because other denominations teach it, and since we don’t agree with them on [insert topic], we can’t agree with them about the Holy Spirit?

Quick Survey

- Is it because we can't "touch" the Holy Spirit?
- Is it because the Holy Spirit is described as a "feeling" and we are uncomfortable talking about our "feelings"? (A safe synonym is "unction")
- Is it because a relationship with the Holy Spirit demands a certain amount of "spiritual intimacy"?
- Is it because the Devil does not want us to fully understand the true power and promise of the Holy Spirit, and so he confuses us?

Who or What is this “Holy Spirit”?

- Old Testament (Judaism)
- The Holy Spirit in Judaism generally refers to the divine aspect of prophecy and wisdom. It also refers to the divine force, quality, and influence of God Most High (Hebrew *El Elyon*) over the universe or over God's creatures, in given contexts.
- The Hebrew language phrase *ruach ha-kodesh* “holy spirit” is used in the Hebrew Bible (Tanakh) and Jewish writings to refer to the spirit of YHWH. It literally means “the spirit of holiness.”

Who or What is the Holy Spirit?

- **Old Testament:** the term is only used in 2 passages
- **Psalms 51** contains a triple parallelism:
 - 10 “Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.”
 - 11 “Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.”
 - 12 “Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with a free spirit.”

Who or What is the Holy Spirit?

- **Old Testament:** the term is only used in 2 passages
- **Isaiah 63** (R.V.), read:
 - 10 “But they rebelled, and grieved his holy spirit therefore he turned to be their enemy, and himself fought against them.”
 - 11 “Then he remembered the days of old, of Moses and his people, saying, Where is he that brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? where is he who put his holy spirit in the midst of them?”

Who or What is the Holy Spirit?

- **New Testament:** the Holy Spirit makes 2 dramatic appearances
- A “winged dove” at the baptism of Jesus (Matthew, Mark & Luke)
- As “tongues of fire” on the day of Pentecost

John 14:15-21

- “If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.”

John 14:25-27

- “All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

Names of the Holy Spirit

- Advocate
- Comforter
- Counselor
- Helper
- Spirit of truth
- Teacher

The Parable of the Duck

**REMAIN CALM ON THE
SURFACE**



**BUT PADDLE LIKE CRAZY
UNDERNEATH!**

memegenerator.net

The Parable of the Sailboat











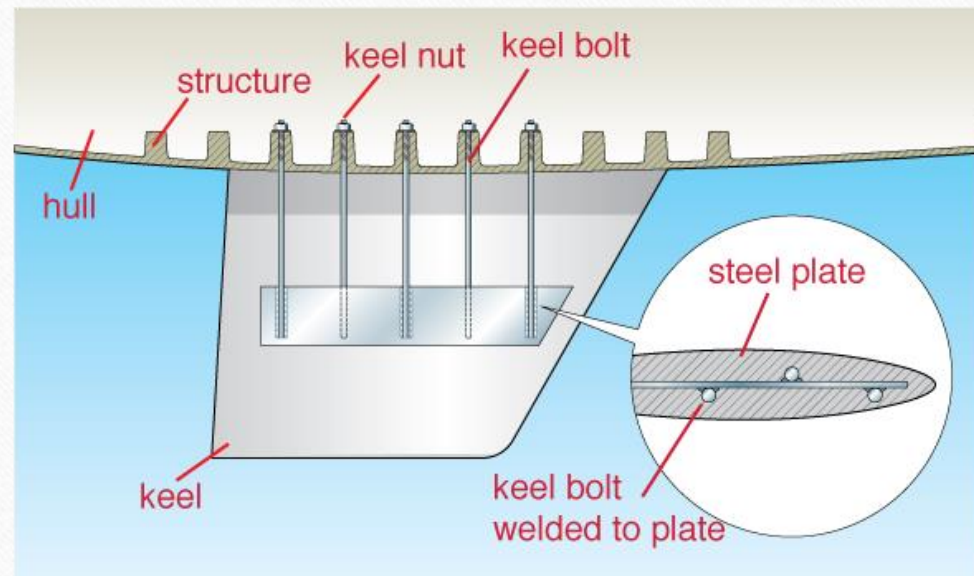
What Does Every Sailboat Need?

KEEL

Basic Keel Info

- A structural keel is a beam around which the hull of a ship is built. The keel runs in the middle of the ship, from the bow to the stern, and serves as a basic foundation or spine of the structure, providing the major source of structural strength of the hull.
- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Keel>

Why Do Sailboats Need a Keel?



- The structural strength and weight of the KEEL prevents the Sailboat from capsizing when the wind blows against the sail
- The KEEL helps the boat navigate forward – it keeps it from sliding sideways
- <https://youtu.be/eS7ENymCpZE>

Why Do Christians Need the Holy Spirit?

- The HOLY SPIRIT provides structural strength to a Christian during the storms of life.
- The HOLY SPIRIT helps a Christian navigate through life by reminding them to “Keep their eyes on Jesus”

Sailboats and Christians

- In British and American shipbuilding traditions, the laying down of the keel is the initial step in construction of a ship, and the construction is dated from this event.
- Laying down of the keel is such a momentous event in a ship's construction that the event is often marked with a ceremony,
- Only the ship's launching is considered more significant in its creation.

Sailboats and Christians

- In Christian traditions, the baptism of a Christian is considered the beginning of a person's spiritual life
- A person's baptism is often marked with ceremony.
- Only a person's eventual physical death (and eventual resurrection) is considered more significant.

Sailboats and Christians

- The KEEL and HOLY SPIRIT are always present and felt, but rarely seen.
- SAILBOATS and CHRISTIANS work best when they leave the dock and head for open water. *No wind, no progress!*
- SAILBOATS and CHRISTIANS can handle rough weather – because that is what they are designed to do.
- No Keel, No Sailing. No Holy Spirit, No Living.

Sailboats and Christians

- First you have to row a little boat – bigger boats and worse weather come later
- Take care to not damage your KEEL, and don't grieve the HOLY SPIRIT
- Your KEEL and HOLY SPIRIT – never leave home without it!
- “Pray without ceasing” – can this be compared to always sail with a keel?

Prayer and the Holy Spirit

- Prayer is an admission that GOD is in control – we are not in control
- Yet GOD commands us to keep PRAYING
- Humanly prayers are fallible, and incomplete and based finite knowledge and understanding
- The HOLY SPIRIT completes and perfects our prayers – Much like a parent checking the homework of a child

Command from the Apostle Paul

- Ephesians 5:18-20

Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Wine vs. Holy Spirit

- Helps you forget
 - Makes you “smarter”
 - “Beer Goggles” improve your eyesight
 - Makes you drowsy
 - Removes inhibitions – Over confident
 - Sing louder
- Helps you remember
 - Gives you “wisdom”
 - “Holy Spirit Goggles” help you keep your eyes on Jesus
 - Keeps you alert
 - Removes inhibitions – More Confident
 - Sing louder – better songs

Holy Spirit

- Every morning, ask God to fill you with the HOLY SPIRIT.
- The HOLY SPIRIT will reveal GOD and his word to YOU.
- The HOLY SPIRIT prays and intercedes for YOU.
- Allow the HOLY SPIRIT to guide your PRAYERS
- And above all, **KEEP YOUR EYES ON JESUS!**

Bonus Quote - Prayer

- “The greatest tragedy of life is not unanswered prayer, but unoffered prayer.”

– FB Meyer

Continue to Pray for Us!



- Clint Hill
- Chris Mayfield
- Reece Morrel Jr.

Closing Prayer

Lord, thank-You for sending Your Spirit to lead us and guide us and fill us with Your wisdom and insight. Just as You've sent Him here to testify to Christ through Your people on the earth, we pray that our hearts will desire Him for that very reason – that our lives will bear living witness to Jesus. Fill us with Your Spirit. Teach us to walk in Your Spirit and pray in the Spirit. Everywhere we go. With everyone we encounter. In every place be glorified in us. In the name of Jesus. Amen.