

Lesson 4 - The Holy Ghost

A Force or a Person?

The third Person of the Godhead is the Holy Ghost. However, there are some religions that teach that the Holy Ghost is a powerful force or influence rather than a living Person. Study carefully the following proofs that the Holy Ghost is a Person (not just a power or force) and is God:

Personal Pronouns are used of the Holy Ghost

John 14:26 and John 16:13 refer to as "he"

The Holy Spirit is called "Comforter"

"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost . . ." (John 14:26). See also John 14:16 and John 15:26. A force cannot comfort, only a person can do this.

The Holy Spirit has knowledge

In 1 Corinthians 2:11 and other verses, we find that the Holy Spirit knows "the things of God." A force cannot know anything.

The Holy Spirit does things that only a person can do

The Holy Spirit teaches (John 14:26), reproves (John 16:8), guides (John 16:13), speaks (Acts 13:2), and intercedes (Romans 8:26).

The Holy Spirit has the characteristics of a person

He is lied to (Acts 5:3), grieved (Ephesians 4:30), and blasphemed (Matthew 12:31).

He is eternal

"How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God . . ." (Hebrews 9:14).

He is omniscient (knows all things)

The Holy Spirit knows "the deep things of God" (1 Corinthians 2:10-11). Jesus Christ told His disciples that the Holy Spirit "shall teach you all things" (John 14:26).

He is omnipotent (has unlimited power)

The Holy Spirit has "the power of the Highest" according to Luke 1:35.

He is omnipresent (present in all places at the same time)

Psalm 139:7-10 teaches that whether you go to heaven or hell or the uttermost parts of the sea, the Holy Spirit will be there. "Whither shall I go from thy spirit? Or whither shall I flee from thy presence?" (Verse 7).

He is called God

In Acts 5:3 Peter accuses Ananias of lying "to the Holy Ghost" and in verse four says that Ananias had "not lied unto men, but unto God." "Now the Lord is that Spirit . . ." (2 Corinthians 3:17).

Review Questions Lesson 4 - The Holy Ghost

True or False

1. The third Person of the Godhead is the Holy Spirit.
2. The name "Comforter" proves that the Holy Spirit is a force.
3. The Holy Spirit teaches and speaks.
4. The Holy Spirit came into existence when God created Adam and Eve.

Multiple Choice

5. The word "omnipotent" means:
 - a. Knowing all things
 - b. Able to be in all places at the same time
 - c. Never changing
 - d. Having unlimited power
6. The Holy Spirit is called:
 - a. God
 - b. The Force
 - c. A Power
 - d. The Son of God
7. The Bible refers to the Holy Spirit as "he." This proves that the Holy Spirit is:
 - a. An Influence
 - b. A Human
 - c. A Person
 - d. God

Fill in the Blanks

8. "the things of God knoweth no man, but the _____ of God" (1 Corinthians 2:11).
9. Ananias _____ to the Holy Spirit.
10. _____ means to know all things.

Further Study

Acts 10:38, Romans 15:13,
Genesis 1:2, Job 33:4,
Psalm 104:30, Matthew 28:19,
2 Corinthians 13:14
John 15:26, John 16:14,
1 Corinthians 6:11
Luke 3:21-22, Matthew 28:19,
John 14:16