

Sanctified by the Holy Spirit

What Is The Current Work Of The Holy Spirit?

- Like that of the Father and Son, the work of the Holy Spirit in this world is temporary, limited, and specific in purpose
 - Aiding in the Creation
 - Revealing God's word in the Old Testament
 - Confirming the revelation of the Gospel in the New Testament
 - His current work of sanctification until the Lord's return
- Just as we can distinguish the work of Jesus in the first century from His current work as Mediator, so we can discern between the very active work of the Holy Spirit in the first century and present work as Sanctifier.

The Ancient Works Of The Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit's work in Creation
 - Gen. 1:2 - “The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.”
 - Psalm 104:30 - “You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; And You renew the face of the earth.”
 - Job 26:13 - “By His Spirit He adorned the heavens”
- In the creation of man
 - Gen. 1:26-27ff - “...Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...”

The Ancient Works Of The Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit's work of revelation of the Old Testament
 - 2Peter 1:20-21 - “Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, 21 for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”
 - 2Sam. 23:2 - “The Spirit of the LORD spoke by me, And His word was on my tongue.”
 - 1Peter 1:10-11 - “Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, 11 searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.”

The Ancient Works Of The Holy Spirit

- Revelation of the New Testament
 - John 16:12-13 - “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”
 - John 14:26 - “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”

The Ancient Works Of The Holy Spirit

- 1Cor. 2:10-13 - “But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. 13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”
- 1Tim. 4:1 - “Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons”

The Ancient Works Of The Holy Spirit

- Through the Gospel designed to produce faith
 - Rom. 10:17 - “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”
 - Col. 1:5-6 - “Because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel, 6 which has come to you, as it has also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit, as it is also among you since the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth”

The Ancient Works Of The Holy Spirit

- Which is God's power to save
 - Rom. 1:16-17 - “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, The just shall live by faith.”
 - 1Cor. 1:18 - “For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.”
- Without the revelation by the Holy Spirit, we would not be saved.

The Ancient Works Of The Holy Spirit

- Confirming Jesus as the Christ
 - Acts 10:38 - “How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.”
 - Matt. 12:28 - “But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.”

The Ancient Works Of The Holy Spirit

- Confirming Jesus as the Christ
 - Luke 4:18-21 - “The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; 19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD. 20 Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. 21 And He began to say to them, Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

The Ancient Works Of The Holy Spirit

- Confirming the message of the apostles
 - Heb. 2:3-4 - “How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, 4 God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?”
 - Rom. 15:19 - “In mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God, so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.”

The Ancient Works Of The Holy Spirit

- By miraculous manifestations - 1Cor. 12:1, 4-11
- Imparted by the laying on of the apostles' hands
 - Acts 8:14-18, 19:1-7; Rom. 1:11; 2Tim. 1:6
- Given to some, but not all - 1Cor. 12:29-30, 14:16, 23
- For the benefit of all, not just possessors of the gifts
 - To reveal the truth - 1Cor. 14:6
 - To confirm the truth - 1Cor. 14:22
- Temporary in duration - 1Cor. 13:8-12

The Current Works Of The Holy Spirit

- In regeneration
 - As the word was preached
 - John 16:8 - “And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment”

The Current Works Of The Holy Spirit

- The Spirit gave the apostles utterance - Acts 2:4
- Peter preached Christ to them - Acts 2:22-24, 36
- The audience was convicted of sin - Acts 2:37
- They were taught to repent and be baptized - Acts 2:38-39
- Those willing to do so, did so gladly - Acts 2:40-41
- Thus the Spirit convicts the world through the revealed and confirmed Word whenever it is preached; those with good and honest hearts will bear fruit

The Current Works Of The Holy Spirit

- Regeneration
 - As the word is obeyed
 - Titus 3:4-7 - “But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, 5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”

The Current Works Of The Holy Spirit

- 1Cor. 6:11 - “And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.”
- John 3:5 - “Jesus answered, Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.”

The Current Works Of The Holy Spirit

- Reborn (regenerated) by means of the word
 - 1Peter 1:22-23 - “Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, 23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever”

The Current Works Of The Holy Spirit

- To continue to sanctify the saved
- A process begun when we were washed and justified - 1Cor. 6:11
- A process that continues by the word
 - John 17:17 - “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.”
 - Acts 20:32 - “So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.”

The Current Works Of The Holy Spirit

- Sanctification is an ongoing work
 - Heb. 2:11 - “For both He who sanctifies and those who *are being sanctified* are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren”
 - Heb. 10:14 - “For by one offering He has perfected forever those who *are being sanctified.*”

The Current Works Of The Holy Spirit

- Not in the sense of needing redemption
 - Heb. 10:10 - “By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”
- But in the sense of living holy lives
 - 1Thes 4:3-4 - “For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor”

The Current Works Of The Holy Spirit

- The Spirit plays an important role in our living the Christian life
- Strengthening us in the inner man
 - Eph. 3:16 - “That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man”

The Current Works Of The Holy Spirit

- Interceding in our behalf
 - Rom. 8:26-27 - “Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”
 - Not as mediator, but as an *amicus curiae*, literally “friend of the court,” who is someone not a party to the case who offers information that bears on the case but has not been solicited by the accused to assist the court.

The Current Works Of The Holy Spirit

- Serving as the seal and earnest
 - Eph. 1:13 - “In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise”
 - Eph. 4:30 - “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.”
 - 2Cor. 1:22 - “Who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.”

The Current Works Of The Holy Spirit

- Fills us with hope
 - Rom. 15:13 - “Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Sanctified by the Holy Spirit

- The Spirit's promise, work, and blessings at the beginning of the Christian age included the necessary process of revealing and confirming God's Word, and was accomplished by special offices of apostles, prophets, gifts, signs, and wonders. Once the Word was fully revealed, the miraculous manifestations came to an end

Sanctified by the Holy Spirit

- Yet the Spirit's promise, work, and blessings throughout the Christian age includes the important process of convicting, regenerating, and sanctifying souls, and is accomplished by preaching the gospel. While it is not a miraculous manifestation, it is a Divine operation.
- Gal. 5:25 - "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."