

## PRAYER STUDY 118

### **The Holy Spirit: Grieving and Quenching and Other Subjects**

(The following information came from Pastor Don Van Hoosier at High Point Church)

#### Why study about the Holy Spirit?

1. This is preeminently the age of the Holy Spirit. Peter, on the day of Pentecost, stood and said, “This is that which was spoken of through the prophet Joel: “And it shall be in the last days, God says, that I will pour forth of My Spirit...!” So, this is the age of the ‘poured forth’ Spirit.
2. This age, and particularly the latter part of this age, will be marked by spiritual warfare, and we cannot enter into that realm of perspective apart from the Holy Spirit.
3. There is an abysmal ignorance among believers of the deep things of God and their birthright privileges, and the Holy Spirit is given “That we might know the things freely given to us by God.” (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 2:12). He is the Revealer and Teacher of Truth.
4. Every Christian grace of character(the fruit of the Spirit, Galatians 5:22-23), every supernatural enablement of power for life and ministry(the gifts of the Spirit, 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:1-11), even the quickening of our mortal bodies(Romans 8:11-before death!) is mediated to us through the Holy Spirit.
5. The Holy Spirit literally takes the place of the glorified Christ making Him always present with all of His own in all places...
6. The Holy Spirit, Jesus said, would guide us into *all* or *whole* truth.
7. He is the *Abiding Comforter!*
8. God is a Spirit, the author of our human spirits; our spirits are eternal, and the only way we can know God is through the Spiritual birth.

*If someone should say it is more important to know about Jesus than to know about the Holy Spirit, we would hasten to agree and to add that we could not know Jesus at all apart from the Holy Spirit. He is here now to lift up our Lord. And our Lord cannot be truly known, magnified, or worshipped apart from the Spirit. We would not make more of Pentecost than of Calvary, nor would we make more of the Holy Spirit than of Jesus, but surely it is safe and needful to study the Scriptural revelation of Him, and particularly so since we live in the dispensation of the Holy Spirit.*

Don Van Hoosier

R.A. Torrey wrote years ago: “There are two classes of sins which Christians commit against the Holy Spirit—one of them chokes the *inlet*, and the other chokes the *outlet*. The hateful things which grieve the Holy Spirit clog the inlet. When we *quench* the Holy Spirit, we stop the *outlet*.”

## **GRIEVING THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Grief is a heart word. It is used only of Christians grieving the Spirit. To cause grief is to “make sorrowful, to cause distress over a loss, to cause painful regret.” Certainly it is a word that shows the tenderness of the Holy Spirit. Scofield says, “It is not strange that some have found here the mother part of divine love.”

Sins That Cause Him Grief:

1. **Unspiritual Talk:** Talk has to originate somewhere and words build up or tear down, cause comfort or grief, heal or bring dis-ease. *Let NO corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that is may minister grace unto the hearers.* Ephesians 4:29
2. **Unkind Feelings:** We are creatures of feeling. It is normal to feel; it is abnormal not to feel. For example, we all respond to rejection by grief or anger. Jesus was a man rejected, and He reacted with sorrow. But unkind feelings towards our Christian brothers and sisters cause grief to the Holy Spirit. *Let ALL bitterness and wrath and anger and clamour and evil speaking be put away from you with all malice.* Ephesians 4:31
3. **An Unforgiving Spirit:** Jesus warned that if we did not forgive neither would our Heavenly Father forgive us. This is not legalism. If I cannot forgive, there is inherent in me something that tells me in my subconscious that my Heavenly Father doesn't forgive me, and somehow I cannot reach out and receive His forgiveness in a “feeling” way that lets me experience the release of guilt. *And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.* Ephesians 4:32
4. **An Impure Life:** All sexual uncleanness in ACT and THOUGHT grieves the Holy Spirit. Perversion of sex has permeated the whole of our society including the church. Perversion in the marriage relationship or outside the marriage relationship is wrong. Nothing can make perversion right. And ALL uncleanness grieves the Spirit of

God. (It has come to me in recent weeks that wherever there is uncleanness we can never be wholly sure that revelation coming through such channels is accurate.) *But fornication, and ALL uncleanness or covetousness, let it not once be named among you, as becometh saints.* Ephesians 5:3

#### Other Ways of Grieving Him

5. Disobeying the scripture.
6. Ignoring the Holy Spirit when we make our decisions.
7. Tempting God as Sapphira did.
8. Lying to the Holy Spirit as Ananias did.
9. Wrong motives.
10. Willful ignorance of the deep things of God which He came to teach us.

#### **QUENCHING THE HOLY SPIRIT**

1. We fail to keep praising God. *Rejoice evermore.* 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:16
2. We fail to keep praying. *Pray without ceasing.* 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:17
3. We fail to thank God in everything. *In everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.* 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:18
4. We treat lightly the message and ministry of the Holy Spirit through others. *Despise not prophesyings.* 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:20
5. We fail to test all supernatural phenomena. *Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.* 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:21

#### **BLASPHEMING THE HOLY SPIRIT**

— We have covered the sin of blaspheming the Holy Spirit, i.e. the unpardonable sin, in previous lessons, but I feel I would be remiss not to mention it here. Luke 12: 10 says, *And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of Man, it shall be forgiven him; but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven.* Mark 3:29 puts it this way, *But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Spirit hath never forgiveness but is in danger of eternal damnation.* We accept Jesus through the Holy Spirit, the Comforter that He has left on earth for us. Blasphemy is attributing the works of God to Satan. In other words this only unpardonable sin is simply not accepting Jesus as the atonement for our sins. If you are worried about it, most likely you have not done it, and it is not a one time deal but a lifetime of rejecting Christ. If you have accepted Christ, you cannot possibly blaspheme the Holy Spirit.