

THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE PASTOR



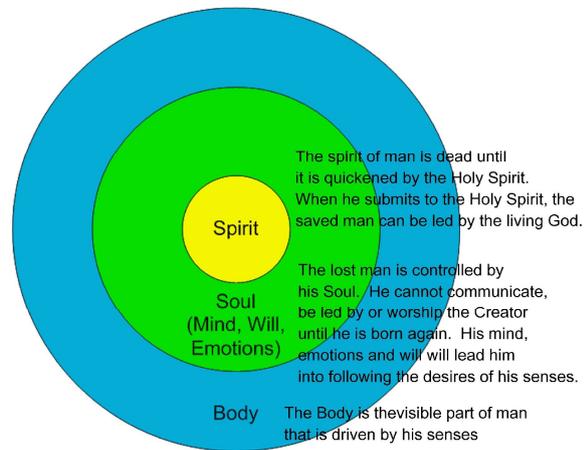
To provide a broad scriptural overview of the necessity of the pastor's depending on the Holy Spirit

INTRODUCTION

I Thessalonians 5:3 states “*And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly and I pray God **your whole spirit**, and **soul** and **body** be preserved blameless until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*”

This verse specifically states the three parts of man. It is difficult to understand why people get into a debate as to whether we are a trichotomy or dichotomy.

Dictionary.com defines a trichotomy as “the three-part division of human beings into body, spirit, and soul.” “Dichotomy refers to division into two parts. The Bible declares that we are trichotomy.



I. THE PASTOR IS DEPENDENT ON THE SCRIPTURES TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE HOLY SPIRIT COMMUNICATES AND WORKS WITH MEN.

A. Man is comprised of Body, Soul and Spirit

Body of man The only visible part of man.

Spirit of man (Instinctive) *I Cor 2:11 “For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God, knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.”*

Soul of man *Romans 8:2 “Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile.”*

B. The Soul is comprised of Mind, Emotion and Will

Our soul is primarily our mind that we think with and our emotions that we should *not* think with, but sometimes emotions do over rule intellect.

If a person is more emotional than he is intellectual, then he will make improper decisions because that person is driven more by his emotions than by a proper thought process. **Some people let their emotions drive them.**

A person can also drive his actions by his will. Pastors have started ministries because they simply said, "I will have one of those."

It might be bus ministry, radio ministry, school and so on. It doesn't matter that it ruins the rest of their life and those around them. I will do this!! I will buy this, or I will do that!!!

A good thing can become a bad thing if the Spirit of God does not lead it. Just because it has the elements of being good, if it is not what God wants, it could become bad.

We can be driven by our will or we can be driven by our emotions or we can be totally driven by our intellect and never involve the Holy Spirit.

Every Christian should think this through. The Spirit of God works through our spirit. We read the Word of God intellectually and then the Spirit of God works through our spirit to teach and to guide—(if) we are receptive to Him and allow Him to speak to us

C. Each Christian should know the Holy Spirit on a personal basis.

Many people seem to confuse knowing the facts about Jesus with knowing Him personally. Knowing that He died for our sins, was buried and rose again is not knowing Him personally—those are just facts about Him.

Knowing that the Holy Spirit is the Comforter is different from His being your Comforter. We, as Christians, must know Jesus personally.

It is not the facts about Jesus that are most important. It is rather Jesus Himself that is important. We must know Him—personally.

The same is true of our Heavenly Father and of the Holy Spirit. It is one thing to know the facts about the Holy Spirit, but it is another to know the Holy Spirit personally.

D. Mankind is either spiritually alive or spiritually dead

If a person is dead spiritually he is not saved; he is not born again.

Ephesians 2:1 "And you hath he quickened who were dead in trespasses and sins."

A man wanted to follow Jesus in Matthew 8:21, but wanted to wait until after his father died. Jesus said to him in verse 22 ***"Follow me and let the dead bury their dead."***

In other words, let the spiritually dead bury the physically dead. Being spiritually dead at the time of physical death is permanent—that's eternal.

The priority of Jesus was to teach men about God and about salvation, so that their spirit could be sensitive to the things of God.

Judas Iscariot knew all the facts about Jesus but was spiritually dead. When people are dead spiritually, they cannot communicate with God. The Spirit of God does not speak to their spirit because their spirit is inactive and not responsive to the Spirit of God.

E. Paul's message to the Corinthians was in demonstration of Spirit and of Power

And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. 1 Co 2:1-5

F. The Holy Spirit communicates with man through the spirit of man.

Can we know the things of God? Not on our own and not by just reading the facts of the Bible. We do not have the capacity to comprehend God simply through the intellect. But the Holy Ghost can teach us about God; and consequently, we can learn about Him. But we will not learn only with what this human being has to comprehend and understand with.

Now **verse 1Co 2:13** ***“Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”***

We have an obvious lesson here that the Holy Ghost will teach us.

But—look at verse 14. ***“But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him:”*** and the reason being is because he has only his intellect to reason with. He has a mind, emotion and a will just like each of us. This is his soul.

A lost person can reason out a lot of things. Just because a person is lost does not mean they are ignorant. Lost people can be very intelligent, capable and able though they do not know, nor do they communicate with God.

Preachers and teachers of the Word of God are to be in touch with God spiritually so that the lost man, learned or unlearned, can be enhanced on a spiritual level.

G. Tongues and Miracles of Healing were introduced into the early church for the specific purpose of making the Jews understand that salvation was being given to all the world, not just to the Jews.

To make them come to that understanding would take miracles.

- They had been taught from the Law of God not to blend in or mix with the world.
- They were to be totally separate.
- They were to be isolationists.

Even the rules of their clothing were such that they were not to mix the fabrics. This was done to keep their mandate of separation constantly before them. For them to understand that the Gentiles, the rest of the world, could receive the things of God, they had to be shown some miracles.

Tongues was the miracle that was shown to them when it was made clear that the Samaritans and then the Gentiles were received as part of God's family. Then most of the Jewish Christians accepted it because they saw that in tongues. However, many still had a difficult time with it and the book of Galatians had to be written to help them along.

Portions of other books of the Bible also dealt with the issue. Today people readily accept the fact that any Gentile can be saved and consequently tongues, and miracles are not necessary.

Paul was already attempting to lead the church away from tongues in I Corinthians Chapter 13. We have a group today that claims to be so spiritual, and they talk about two things—tongues and miracles of healing.

God called us into a spiritual business; and if we are going to work for Him, we are going to have to understand the spiritual things of God. Whatever way God wants to work with men, I would love for Him to count me in, but my spirit just does not bear witness with those today who major on speaking in tongues and faith healing. God used these miracles for a period of time to let the Jews know He was calling out Gentiles to be part of the Kingdom of God.

I am critical of some of the Christian colleges and universities. Academics tend to

overpower the spiritual because the natural man depends on his intellect, whereas the spiritual man depends first on leadership from God.

A teacher can teach the facts of the Bible and not know the Author, the Holy Spirit. If one is not careful, he will allow the Spirit to be left out or even taught out.

Unspiritual instructors make light of the Holy Spirit and often remove any serious teaching about Him from the curriculum. Young impressionable students can complete a Bible college degree and never understand the work of the Holy Spirit.

Enabling -The Holy Spirit enables a person to be born again through the spiritual birthing channel. We are born physically first; and then, secondly, we are born spiritually when we are saved. The births are very similar. When a baby is being carried in the womb, it is in total darkness; and when it is born, it comes out of that darkness and into the light and begins to hear sounds and see things never seen before. It is all new to the baby. The same thing is true when a person is spiritually born again.

When that person's spirit can communicate with the Spirit of God then that person begins to hear and see things that he or she has never heard nor seen before and that person has come out of darkness into light. The Holy Spirit reveals Christ to the lost person so that person can be saved.

Revealing & Leading - *Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth. John 16:13*

Speaking of the Holy Spirit - God teaches us and communicates through the Word of God and the Spirit of God.

He gives us the Word of God to teach us, and the Word of God is complete. Whatever the Spirit of God does will not contradict the Word of God.

The Word of God will teach us many things about life and about God, but the word of God will not tell a person which husband or wife to choose -- but the Spirit of God will.

The Word of God will not tell a person which specific ministry to go into, but the Spirit of God will.

The Word of God will not tell a person which ministry to start and when to start and how to start, but the Spirit of God will.

The Word of God will teach us intellectually and show us God Himself, but it is the Spirit of God that gives the word of God life. So, it takes both to understand

God.

THE THE PASTOR IS DEPENDENT ON THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR A CALL TO MINISTRY –

I. SELECTION.

A. The apostles were called by God.

Mark 1:19-20 And when he had gone a little further thence, he saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the ship mending their nets. And straightway he called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after him.

Rom 1:1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God...

Acts 13:2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

Acts 16:10 And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.

Heb 5:1-4 For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins: Who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity. And by reason hereof he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins. And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron.

The pastor must be selected by God to work for Him. I hear men preaching about just volunteering, and we should volunteer -- but that does not mean that we will be selected for the job.

God selects whom He chooses. A lot of men would like to volunteer for an ambassador's job to a particular country, but it is the president who chooses whom he desires for the job.

It is little thinking to assume that God would be less particular about whom He wants to fill His places of service than is the president of the United States.

Besides that, bit of common sense, we have the Bible to teach us the truth about this. It is presumptuous to think that because we volunteer for any job that we will be selected. All through the Word of God, we find God choosing specific men for specific tasks. Look first with me to the selection of the disciples. They were called by the Lord.

Every preacher whom God has called into the ministry understands just how strong the call is.

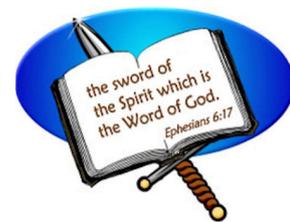
Those who have never received a call and are attempting to do the work without a call will be the ones who say that a person should just volunteer and go without one.

The Bible is specific in saying that God places His men where He wants them to serve.

II. THE PASTOR IS DEPENDENT ON THE HOLY SPIRIT TO LEAD HIM.

A. Through the sword of the Spirit--the Word of God

The pastor must be led by the Spirit of God through the Word of God. ***Ephesians 6:17*** ***“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”***



The Word of God is identified as the sword of the Spirit.

Pastors are to learn the word of God and to be proficient in teaching it, but the work on the hearts of men with the Word belongs to the Spirit not the pastor nor any other person.

Men do not have the ability to bring conviction on a person.

- That is the job of the Spirit.

Heb 4:12-13 ***For the word of God is quick, (Alive) and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow,***

and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

B. Through the direct speaking of the Holy Spirit

Rom 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

Matt 4:1 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

Acts 8:39-40 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing. But Philip was found at Azotus: and passing through he preached in all the cities, till he came to Caesarea.

Acts 10:19-20 While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee. Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them.

Acts 13:1-4 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.

John 1:32-33 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.

Rom 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

1 John 5:10 He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.

Gal 4:6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

IV. EFFECTIVE PREACHING

My personal experience is that God communicates more directly with me when I have made special efforts of prayer, and I have also learned that fasting enhances my ability to hear from God and to have Him work through me.

God's power is revealed as a person empties himself of self. The power of God is not vested in a man but in God, and He works through whom He chooses.

There is not a more lonesome place than the pulpit without the anointing of God.

When He is present there is a sense of boldness that is unexplainable but there is a sense of orphanage when attempting to do any of the work of God without Him.

A. For understanding the Bible

Heb 4:12-13 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

B. For boldness

Acts 4:8-13 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel, If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole; Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

Acts 4:31-32 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

CONCLUSION:

The finished products of ministry work without Holy Spirit control are: Legalism, Emotionalism, Egotism, Materialism, and Professionalism.

There are two ways that a pastor can try to accomplish the work of our Lord. He can manipulate using his human skills or he can surrender to the work of the Holy Spirit.

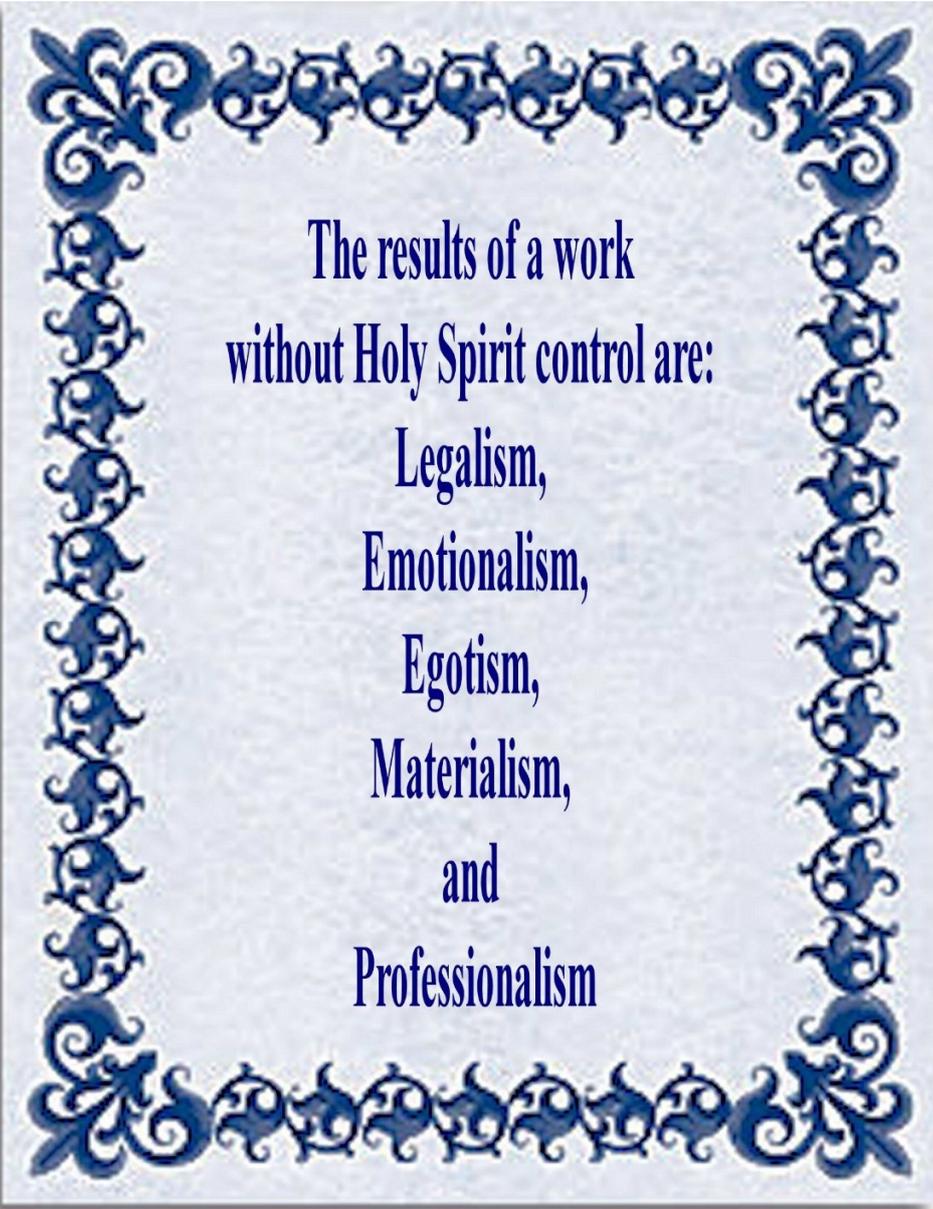
- Manipulation gets human results and is without value for eternity.
- It will produce an unacceptable, unappreciated and illegitimate following.

Matthew 7:22-23 "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: Depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

Pastors should keep in mind that the work they have been called to do is spiritual, and as such it will take the Holy Spirit to get results. Our goal should be to please God -- not men.

We should not measure ourselves against the work of other men to determine if we are successful. Success is being totally dependent on God and following His directions, and there is no way to improve on the will of God. His will for each man is very individualized and very different.

We should never try to work up a service with emotionalism. Doing so produces illegitimate results. It is the duty of every preacher to follow God explicitly.



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