

Sunday Morning Questions

April 26, 2020

Below are the Questions that were submitted and answered on April 26, 2020 and a brief summary of each answer that Josh gave in His lesson. Thanks to everyone who submitted questions.
You can view the video of this lesson at www.CharlotteHeights.org or on [Facebook](#).

"I strongly state that I'm just a humble servant of the Word. I'm not the authority, but God is."

--Josh Barnett

Question 1: How does one feel the Holy Spirit is in them?

- A. Before I answer, let's consider someone we are more comfortable with - Jesus.
 - “*I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me...*” (Galatians 2:20)
 - “*Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? ...*” (2 Corinthians 13:5)
 - “*That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith...*” (Ephesians 3:17)
 - Have you felt Christ in you?
 - Have you felt forgiveness by His blood?
 - Are you connected in spirit, in truth, in worship, and in partaking of the Lord’s Supper?
 - Have you felt your weight lifted by God?
 - Have you felt encouraged and peaceful by prayer?
 - Have you believed and felt a verse from the Bible?
 - How? We do so through faith.
 - If you answered yes, then the same can be said about the Holy Spirit. The Spirit conveyed the teachings of Christ to the writers, and He helps us in our prayers.
 - We are more comfortable with Christ because we have heard more from Him than the Holy Spirit.
 - A neglect of reading, understanding, or teaching can cause us to feel left out with the Holy Spirit.
- B. What about the Holy Spirit?
 - He is a divine Being. He is God. (Acts 5:3-5)
 - He was involved in creation. (Genesis 1:2)
 - He was involved in divine revelation by
 - Remembrance of the teaching of Christ. (John 14:26)
 - Bearing witness through the apostles’ instructions. (John 15:26)
 - Teaching them all things, guiding them in all truth, and declaring the things to come. (John 14:16)
 - He is part of our conversion. (John 3:3-5; Acts 2:38)
 - He is part of our prayers. (Romans 8:26)
 - He is part of the resurrection from the dead. (Romans 8:11; I Peter 3:18)
 - See the fruits of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23.
 - We are to “*walk in the Spirit*”. (5:16)
 - We are to be “*led by the Spirit*”. (5:18)
 - We are to “*live in the Spirit*”. (5:25)
- C. How do you feel the Holy Spirit?
 - Forgiveness, prayer, weights lifted, assurance, peace, ability to love and forgive, patient, joy regardless of our circumstances, kindness even though someone else is not kind in return, and many more are all examples of doing and feeling the Holy Spirit.
 - The Spirit is given to us as a gift at our conversion but not separate and apart from the Spirit’s work.
 - Remember, God is not an author of confusion.
 - It is not the Holy Spirit moving you if it is not in connection to what the Spirit taught or said in the Word.
 - I believe the more we teach on the Spirit, the more comfortable we feel in knowing the Spirit’s role.

Question 2: Where was Jesus for three days between His death and resurrection? Some scholars, as well as the Apostles' Creed, say he went to hell? Is that true? Why or why not?

Answer: No. It is not true.

- A. The Apostle's Creed (which is not from the apostles but from a council in the late 3rd century) states:
"He descended into Hell, the third day He rose again from the dead."
- B. Another Creed, the Athanasian Creed, came in 500 A.D. from the bishop of Alexandria, Athanasius. It states:
"He suffered death for our salvation. He descended into hell and rose again from the dead."
- C. Adding to this is the KJV translation of Acts 2:31, "*He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither did his flesh see corruption.*"
- D. The confusion comes from the distinction between the Greek terms *hades* and *gehenna*.
 - *Hades* refers to the intermediate state of the dead who are waiting for the Judgment.
 - *Gehenna* is the location of the final state of the wicked after the Judgment (Hell).
 - The KJV renders *hades* as *hell* in 10 occurrences in the New Testament. (See Luke 10:15; Luke 16:23; Acts 2:27)
 - The first English translation to show the distinction between the Greek terms is the American Standard Version.
 - The NKJV, NIV, ESV, and every other major translation uses the word *Hades*.
 - The NIV goes further in Acts 2:31 and uses the term "*the realm of the dead*".
- E. So, where did Jesus go?
 - I take Him at His word with what He said to the repentant thief on the cross.
 - Jesus said, "*Today (meaning that day, Friday) you will be with Me in Paradise.*" (Luke 23:43)
 - Paradise is the intermediate place where Jesus went with the repentant thief.
 - It is not heaven because Jesus told His apostles that He would go and prepare a place (Heaven) for them. (John 14:1-3)
 - Why would Jesus go to Hell? What purpose would it serve?
 - The devil and his angels have been condemned by God. Hell is a place prepared for them. "*Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.*" (Matthew 25:41)

Question 3: How does conscience work with the Holy Spirit? Are they connected?

Answer

- A. The conscience operates or works based on the knowledge available to it.
 - Your conscience doesn't go beyond what you know.
 - When you were younger, did you know everything that was right or wrong?
 - No, you knew based on what was told to you and on your experience.
- B. Obviously, the conscience is not the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit is not our conscience.
- C. Everyone comes equipped with a conscience but not with the gift of the Holy Spirit.
 - On the day of Pentecost, the people asked, "*Men and brethren what shall we do?*" (Acts 2:37)
 - They had a conscience because they were pricked in their heart based on what they had heard.
 - Peter said, "*Repent and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*" (Acts 2:38)
 - We receive the Holy Spirit as a spiritual gift when we are born again spiritually.
- D. Our conscience alone is not a safe guide in religious matters.
 - Consider Paul.
 - He told the Jewish Council: "*I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day.*" (Acts 23:1)
 - He told Agrippa, "*I myself thought I must do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.*" (Acts 26:9)
 - Paul's conscience always approved his actions before his encounter with Jesus.
 - Were his actions pleasing to God? Jesus said, "*Why are you persecuting Me?*" (Acts 9:4)
 - "*There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.*" (Proverb 14:12)
 - It is said, "*the conscience attaches itself to the highest standard a person knows.*"
 - Our conscience is limited to what we know.
 - The knowledge we have of Jesus Christ comes from the teachings of the Holy Spirit. (John 14:26; John 16:5-7)
 - Peter wrote, "*knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.*" (II Peter 1:20-21)
- E. Conscience is based on what we know, and the Holy Spirit gave the words that we have come to know and love.
 This is the connection.