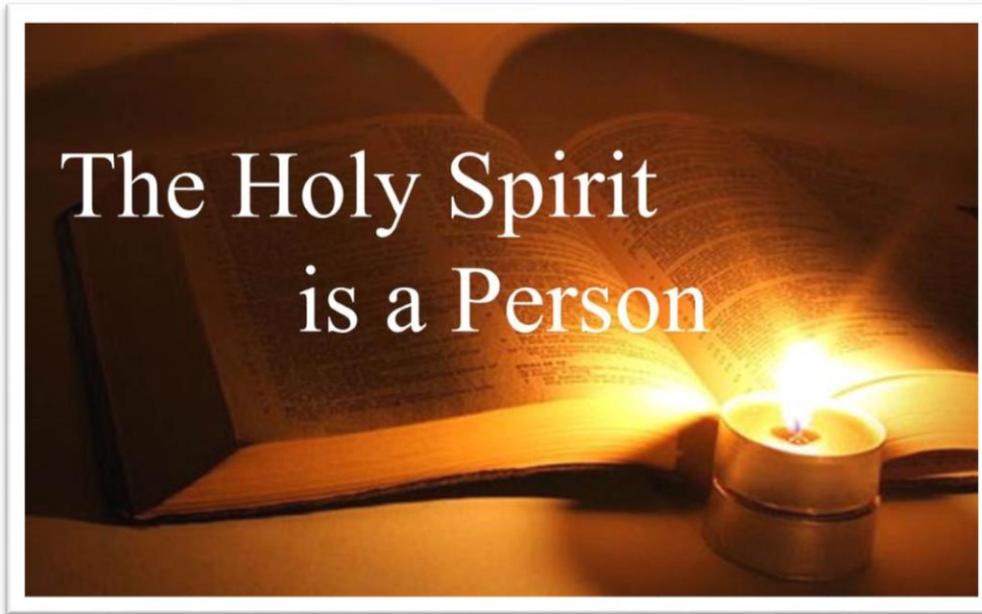


THE HOLY SPIRIT



THE HOLY SPIRIT is the distinguishing characteristic of God's people on earth. As Moses once cried to God, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us", so it is now with God's chosen and sent people on this planet.

"God with us" is the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit's modes and actions in regeneration, sealing, baptism with power, giver of gifts among his people, tangibly manifest in various ministries, anointings, fillings, "comings upon with power," and so on -- all are genuinely WONDER ful.

For me at least though, I try not to get too precise distinguishing which manifestation is which, and the conditions "required." The Holy Spirit does as he pleases. He is after all, God.

I personally most treasure his daily Presence.

It almost hurts, it is so ironic, when debating with someone whether God exists. They protest the mere existence of the Presence I am at that moment interacting with!

As a young pastor, I really admired mature Christians who seemed to know a lot about the Holy Spirit. I yearned to be like them one day.

Well, now I am an older pastor and hopefully, mature. As the years have gone by, it has been God's blessing for me to have had some quite dramatic encounters with the Spirit.

Yet I have discovered to my surprise (and really, relief) that I remain a NOVICE. Which is as it should be. He is God – I am not.

Scripture speaks of the possibility of believers being "filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." Which leads me to believe there is always more of the Spirit to receive than we have yet received.

IT IS MY OPINION THAT EACH OF US NOW HAS ALL OF GOD WE WANT AND CAN STAND. We ought to pray God to ENLARGE OUR DESIRE AND CAPACITY to bear more and more of the Spirit's Presence as we walk our pilgrimage on this planet.