

Work of the Holy Spirit in the New Creation: Uniting Sinners to Christ

Unity in the Trinity – The Spirit of Christ

John 17:4-5 - I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

In the words of, C. S. Lewis, “In Christianity, God is not a static thing ... but a dynamic, pulsating activity, a life, almost a kind of drama. Almost, if you will not think me irreverent, a kind of dance.”

Theologian Cornelius Plantinga develops this further, noting that the Bible says the Father, the Son, and the Spirit glorify one another: “The persons within God exalt each other, commune with each other, and defer to one another.... Each divine person harbors the others at the center of his being. In constant movement of overture and acceptance, each person envelops and encircles the others.... God’s interior life [therefore] overflows with regard for others.”

The Holy Spirit - Christ’s companion

- The Spirit was with Christ in Creation.
- The Spirit was with Christ in the Virgin Birth

Luke 1:35 - “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy”

- The Spirit of Christ was with Him throughout His ministry
- The Spirit inspired men to pen the Scripture making it God-breathed

John 15:26 - But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.

“the Spirit was the constant companion of Christ from womb to tomb to the throne. So when the Spirit dwells in the Christian he dwells as the Spirit of Christ.” Uniting us to Him, in Him”. Sinclair Ferguson

The Spirit of Christ – ‘in Christ’

John 14:16-17 – “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

John 14:18-23- “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.” ²² Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?” ²³ Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

John 14:26-28 - 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 that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.

John 15:26-27 - “But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. ²⁷ And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

The New Creation – United in/to Christ

Q.30 - How does the Spirit apply to us the redemption purchased by Christ?

A. The Spirit applies to us the redemption purchased by Christ, by working faith in us, and thereby uniting us to Christ, in our effectual calling.

Q.1. What is the special work of the Spirit in the application of redemption?

A. It is the *uniting us to Christ,*

Q. 2. Can we have no share in the redemption purchased by Christ, without union to his person?

A. No; because all purchased blessings are lodged in his person, and go along with it

1 John 5:12 - Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

John 16:13-15 - When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Romans 8:16 - The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God

Sealed and Preserved by the Holy Spirit (Eternal Security)

2 Corinthians 1:21,22 - And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, ²² and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

Romans 8:1 - There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Romans 8:6 - For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

Romans 37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Galatians 5:22 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Ephesians 1:13-14b - In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Ephesians 1:16 – 20 - I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,