

Understanding the Person and Ministry of the Holy Spirit

The Person of the Spirit: Who Is the Holy Spirit?

1. The Personality of the Holy Spirit: The Spirit is a Person

a. Reasons Why the Holy Spirit is a Person

1. The Spirit has the Attributes or Characteristics of Personality:

- a. Intellect  
1 Cor. 2:10-13  
Rom. 8:27  
Isa. 11:2
- b. Emotion  
Ephesians 4:30;  
Hebrews 10:29;  
James 4:5
- c. Will [makes choices]  
1 Corinthians 12:11;

2. The Spirit Performs the Actions of a Personality:

- a. He teaches. John 14:26; John 16:13-15
- b. He testifies or bears witness. John 15:26; Romans 8:16
- c. He guides or leads. Romans 8:14
- d. He commands and directs people. Acts 8:39
- e. He convinces [convicts]. John 16:7-8
- f. He restrains. Genesis 6:3; 2 Thes. 2:6-7
- g. He intercedes in prayer. Romans 8:26

3. The Spirit Receives Ascriptions of Personality.

- a. He can be obeyed. Acts 16:6-11
- b. He can be lied to. Acts 5:3
- c. He can be resisted. Acts 7:51
- d. He can be blasphemed. Matthew 12:31
- e. He can be grieved. Eph. 4:30
- f. He can be quenched. 1 Thes. 5:19

4. The Spirit receives the Accidence of Personality ("the rudiments or basics of grammar point to personality").

The Greek word for Spirit is *pneuma* which fundamentally means "breath, wind." *Pneuma* is a neuter gender word and would normally require a neuter gender pronoun according to a rule of Greek grammar called concord. Masculine pronouns are used of the Spirit in John 15:26; 16:7, 8, 13, and 14.

Conclusion is that Scripture considers the Holy Spirit a person.