

**The Holy Spirit in the Life of a Kingdom Citizen
(Holy Spirit Series No. 4)**

(A message to help clarify who the Holy Spirit is and what His purpose is in the life of a Kingdom citizen and how we are to learn to be sensitive to His leading in our lives).

**A SERMON DELIVERED AT
THE HAENERTSBURG CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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Main Scripture:

Ephesians 4:30 (NIV)

³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Introduction:

Well good morning to you all and to all those viewers on YouTube and those that are listening on iTunes or podcast. It is such an honour and privilege to have you connecting and sharing this time with us.

I would encourage all of you that were not here the last few weeks to go and listen to the sermons, which was the beginning of this series on the Holy Spirit.

We came to learn that the most important person on planet earth today is That is correct the Holy Spirit.

He is more important than any organization in the world. He is wiser than every person on the planet and in fact wiser than everyone put together, yet He is, sadly, seldom consulted even by Christians.

When you remove the Holy Spirit from the church then all you have is a religious club and we certainly never ever want to be a religious club, but rather a people that have a deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit and are known as a Godly group of people that puts God first in all things.

The Holy Spirit is probably the most ignored person in the universal Church and that is why the church is in such a mess, but God wants this to change.

This will certainly not be and, in fact never will be, the case in this congregation.

The Holy Spirit is the person Jesus sent to complete the job of God on earth through you and I as His church.

Dr. Ian Loughor-Clarke

2 Corinthians 13:14 (NIV),

¹⁴ May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many of you, if you came from a mainline congregation or have been to one of their services, you will know this as the benediction and that is where it normally stops. However, that should not be the case.

If you go through this Scripture carefully you will see here the 3 roles of the God Head in our lives.

You can listen to last week's sermon if you missed what this is about, but I just want to come back to the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, or communion or partnership or intimacy.

Intimacy cannot be developed unless there is fellowship, which means that we need to spend time talking to the Holy Spirit if we want to become intimate with Him and know His voice. If we want to know the intimate secrets of God then we have to have an intimate relationship with God. Do you think if you are being unfaithful to your spouse he or she is going to share the intimate secrets of their heart with you? Just the same as the Holy Spirit is not going to share the secret things of God if we prostitute ourselves with the World.

Do people associate you with God or with the world?

Are you set apart as a Kingdom Citizen, or do you just blend into the world?

We need to learn to yield to Him, and His presence in our lives, and this takes time and effort on our part.

Do you seek the manifestation of the Holy Spirit or do you seek to have an intimate relationship with Him? I know most people seek the manifestation of the Holy Spirit, but not the person of the Holy Spirit and that is just upside down.

Now if you are married you know that you cannot treat your wife like a man and say things like that, it is not logical. A woman is very different from a man and, sometimes even in the way they think. Women are more interested in relationships and men are more interested in achievements and accomplishments. This is not wrong it is just different, but relationships come easier with woman than with men because they are wired to be more relational than a man. This is the case with most women and that is just because those are the attributes that have been placed in a female.

Both men and woman were created in the image of God and I hope we now have this settled in our hearts and minds.

1 Peter 3:7 (GNT)

⁷ In the same way you husbands must live with your wives with the proper understanding that they are weaker than you. Treat them with respect, because they also will receive, together with you, God's gift of life. Do this so that nothing will interfere with your prayers.¹

7 **3.7:** Eph 5:25; Col 3:19

¹ American Bible Society. (1992). *The Holy Bible: The Good news Translation* (2nd ed., 1 Pe 3:7). New York: American Bible Society.

If we do not treat our wives with understanding and the respect that is due them, it is going to affect our prayer life or, should I say, our relationship with the Holy Spirit.

If you go to the Greek translation you will see that they have a pronoun that is gender neutral.

In English we have he, she and it.

The Greeks have a pronoun that can refer to one girl or one guy and this is the pronoun that was used for the Holy Spirit every single time in the Old Testament and whenever Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit.

In the Old Testament you will also see that the Hebrew scribes also used the same pronoun when they referred to the Holy Spirit and this was gender neutral.

Now you have God the Father which is quite obvious and God the Son which is also quite obvious so who is left, the Holy Spirit and hence it is the One that must carry the attributes that we would often ascribe as feminine. This does not mean that we refer to the Holy Spirit as a Goddess or a she, but just that He has certain attributes that we are inclined to ascribe as feminine.

Ephesians 4:30 (NIV)

³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

λυπέω lypeō; from 3077; *to distress, to grieve*:—cause ... sorrow(1), caused ... sorrow(2), caused sorrow(2), distressed(1), grieve(3), grieved(7), grieving(2), hurt(1), made sorrowful(5), sorrow(1), sorrowful(1).²

You can grieve the Holy Spirit of God, just like a woman is grieved, far more deeply when treated harshly. This means that we all need to learn to become far more sensitive to the leading and working of the Holy Spirit and not do things that would grieve His heart.

Wisdom is often referred to as she and the Holy Spirit is referred to as the Spirit of Wisdom.

We need to learn to partner with the Holy Spirit if we want to reach our community and South Africa for the Lord, but this means that we need to learn to become more understanding of the Holy Spirit so that we do not grieve Him because that would cause us not to have an intimate relationship with Him and He is not going to share the secret things of God with us.

The Holy Spirit is not wearied, but people are wearied.

I want to encourage every one of you to pursue an intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit and if you are prostituting your heart with the world then repent right now.

When you get married you are giving your heart to your spouse and it is now set apart for her/him and no one else in the whole world. This is why you can have intimacy where you share the deepest secrets of your heart.

² Thomas, R. L. (1998). *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek dictionaries : updated edition*. Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc.

Likewise we need to have hearts that are sold out to God and not this world because that is what is going to cause our lives to be completely transformed.

EG. Everyone told me that God said the He is taking my earthly Father and when I spoke to the Holy Spirit He did not confirm this so I told my wife this is absolute nonsense because that is not what God told me. I could say this with confidence because the Holy Spirit told me the opposite.

EG. Same when God said that we must buy this building and all the Elders including my wife said no. I said I believed that God was wanting to give us this building and shared the plan.

Amen.

This sermon was preached by Dr. Ian Loughor-Clarke at Haenertsburg Christian Church on the 22nd April 2018. (c) Dr. Ian F. Loughor-Clarke, Haenertsburg Christian Church.

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