

# Chapter 3: Theology of the Holy Spirit

## Forgotten God, Session 3

“What does the Spirit do? His works are ineffable in majesty, and innumerable in quantity. How can we even ponder what expands beyond the ages? What did He do before creation began? How great are the graces He showered on creation? What power will He wield in the age to come? He existed; He pre-existed; He co-existed with the Father and the Son before the ages. Even if you can imagine anything beyond the ages, you will discover that the Spirit is even further beyond.” –St. Basil the Great

### **Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi**

What is the benefit of good theology? What is the danger of bad theology?

The way we \_\_\_\_\_ leads to the way we \_\_\_\_\_

### **Forgotten God: Week 3 Video (notes)**

### **Let's Talk Trinity**

The point is not to completely understand God but to worship Him. Let the very fact that you cannot know Him fully lead you to praise Him for His infiniteness and grandeur” (65).

Trinity metaphors: what have you heard? How are they insufficient?

Egg, water, clover

Isaiah 9:6

A much better illustration is \_\_\_\_\_!

### **Holy Spirit**

- 1) The Holy Spirit is a person (John 14:17)  
“This calls us to relationship with the Spirit, instead of allowing us to think we can treat the Spirit as a power to be harnessed in order to accomplish our purposes” (70).
- 2) The Holy Spirit is God (Acts 5:3-4)
- 3) The Holy Spirit is eternal and holy (Hebrews 9:14)
- 4) The Holy Spirit has His own mind, and He prays for us (Romans 8:27)
- 5) The Holy Spirit has emotions (Is 63:10; Eph 4:30)  
  
“Since He created emotions, why is it difficult to believe that He Himself has emotions?” (72)
- 6) The Holy Spirit has His own desires and will (1 Cor 12:11)
- 7) The Holy Spirit is omnipotent, omnipresent and omniscient (Isaiah 40:13)

### **Functions of the Spirit**

He draws people to the gospel  
He enables us to bear witness of Jesus  
He teaches, reminds, comforts, advises, encourages and strengthens  
He puts to death the misdeeds of the body  
He gives us the spirit of adoption that bears witness we are God’s children  
He seals us for the day of redemption  
He convicts people of sin  
He gives life and freedom instead of bondage and slavery  
He gives hope, joy, peace and a unique manifestation of spiritual gifts  
He sanctifies us, making us more like Jesus in thought, word and deed

### **Discussion Questions:**

Good theology will lead you to right action, genuine love and true worship. Is there anything new in the theology of the Holy Spirit from this chapter that you were not aware of or are freshly aware of?

Is there a difference between knowing the truth and living the truth? Explain.

Did Luther miss anything in his explanation to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Article?