

How the Holy Spirit Leads Men Today?

Dub Mowery

Just how does the Holy Spirit lead a person in this present age? Many mistakenly think that their own subjective feelings are the supernatural action of the Holy Spirit. If this were so, how would a person distinguish between his natural inner feelings and those brought on supernaturally? Solomon warns, "HE THAT TRUSTETH IN HIS OWN HEART IS A FOOL: BUT WHOSO WALKETH WISELY, HE SHALL BE DELIVERED" (**Proverbs 28:26**). Again, "THERE IS A WAY THAT SEEMETH RIGHT UNTO A MAN; BUT THE END THEREOF ARE THE WAYS OF DEATH" (**Proverbs 16:25**). These two passages reveal that our inner feelings are not a reliable source in determining right from wrong.

This is especially true in respect to morals and learning what the Lord would have us to do. Our outlook on life philosophically is determined by how we were raised, experiences in life, knowledge obtained by observation and by what we were taught. From these sources we develop a philosophy to guide us in life. This internal understanding of right and wrong may not coincide with the inspired Word of God. That's the reason different people who think their inner feelings mean they are guided by the Holy Spirit arrive at opposite concepts from each other and from what the Bible actually teaches. These conflicting claims of being guided by the Holy Spirit cannot be blamed upon the Lord. The Apostle Paul informs us that, "...GOD IS NOT THE AUTHOR OF CONFUSION..." (**1 Corinthians 14:33**).

In reality, how does the third person in the Godhead communicate unto mankind? From the beginning of time Divine messages were always delivered in a language understood by the recipients of those messages. A person has never received communication from Heaven by way of his inner feeling. How did Adam and Eve come to a knowledge of the will of God for them in the Garden of Eden? It was by *words*. "AND THE LORD GOD COMMANDED THE MAN, SAYING, OF EVERY TREE OF THE GARDEN THOU MAYEST FREELY EAT: BUT, OF THE TREE OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL, THOU SHALT NOT EAT OF IT: FOR IN THE DAY THAT THOU EATEST THEREOF THOU SHALT SURELY DIE" (**Genesis 2:16-17**).

Several passages of scripture reveal that the Holy Spirit used words to communicate. David declared, "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD SPAKE BY ME, AND HIS WORD WAS IN MY TONGUE" (**2 Samuel 23:2**). The Apostle Peter said, "MAN AND BRETHREN, THIS SCRIPTURE MUST NEEDS HAVE BEEN FULFILLED, WHICH THE HOLY GHOST BY THE MOUTH OF DAVID SPAKE BEFORE CONCERNING JUDAS, WHICH WAS GUIDE TO THEM THAT TOOK JESUS" (**Acts 1:16**). The Apostle Paul wrote, "NOW THE SPIRIT SPEAKETH EXPRESSLY, THAT IN THE LATTER TIMES SOME SHALL DEPART FRONT THE FAITH..." (**1 Timothy 4:1**).

How the Holy Spirit Leads Men Today?

Dub Mowery

The Holy Spirit did not communicate heavenly messages to every person, but rather inspired certain men as spokesmen. Moses received the Decalogue for the children of Israel at Mount Sinai. The Apostle John pointed out that "...LAW WAS GIVEN BY MOSES, BUT GRACE AND TRUTH CAME BY JESUS CHRIST" (**John 1:17**). Owing the Mosaic dispensation God chose certain men as prophets to deliver His Word to the Israelites. The Apostle Peter, in referring to the writers, of the Old Testament said, "...HOLY MEN OF GOD SPAKE AS THEY WERE MOVED BY THE HOLY GHOST" (**2 Peter 1:21**). At Hebrews 1:1, the scripture states, "GOD, WHO AT SUNDRY TIMES AND IN DIVERS MANNERS SPAKE IN TIME PAST UNTO THE FATHERS BY THE PROPHETS." For the New Testament dispensation Jesus Christ promised to send the Holy Spirit unto the apostles to guide them unto all truth (**John 14:26; 16:13**). Not only did the apostles and the New Testament prophets speak by inspiration, but they also wrote as guided unto all truth (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**). At **First Corinthians 2:10-13**, the Apostle Paul pointed out that the very words he wrote were the words of the Holy Spirit. The days of miracles and receiving messages from heaven supernaturally ceased at the close of the first century (**1 Corinthians 13:8-10; Jude 3; Revelation 22:18-19**). The Bible is the complete revelation of the Heavenly Father for mankind's eternal redemption. Those who claim to be led directly by the Holy Spirit today are either deceived or false prophets (**Matthew 7:15; 1 John 4:1**).