

THEOLOGY EXAM

PNEUMATOLOGY 3

Does the Holy Spirit guide Christians?

Does the Holy Spirit have a small voice?

- There are two wills of God —
 - ▣ God's PRECEPTIVE will (e.g., 1 Thess. 4:3; Eph. 5:17), which may be disobeyed.
 - ▣ God's DECRETIVE will (Jn. 6:37-44), which will always be accomplished.
 - ▣ God's preceptive will has been REVEALED and God's decretive will is revealed through TIME and may not ever be fully known (Dt. 29:29).

Does the Holy Spirit have a small voice?

- The Lord spoke directly in the NT only to the APOSTLES (2 Pt. 1:20-21) and He no longer speaks directly to any man; when the Lord "speaks," He does so through His Word.
 - ▣ Ephesians 2:20
 - ▣ Hebrews 2:3-4

How does the Holy Spirit guide Christians?

- The Holy Spirit guides believers through THE SCRIPTURES.
 - Jesus' final instructions to the disciples affirm that the Holy Spirit's tool to guide them would be the SCRIPTURES (Jn. 13-17).

How does the Holy Spirit guide Christians?

- In His High Priestly prayer, Jesus said that the TRUTH is contained in God's Word (Jn. 17:17). Christ recognized the adequacy of the Scriptures to produce sanctification in believers (which is also affirmed throughout the Epistles, e.g., Rom. 15:16; Eph. 5:26; 2 Thess. 2:13).
- Jesus uses the Scriptures to cleanse His BRIDE (Eph. 5:26) — and the husband uses them to sanctify his wife.

How does the Holy Spirit guide Christians?

- This Word is part of God's gift to believers that is all that we need for LIFE and GODLINESS (2 Pt. 1:3).
- God's COUNSEL (in His Word) is what guides every FOLLOWER of God (Ps. 73:24; see also Ps. 119).

How does the Holy Spirit guide Christians?

- The Holy Spirit guides believers through FILLING believers (Eph. 5:18) —
 - ▣ What the filling of the Holy Spirit DOES NOT mean.
 - Filling is not a second act of blessing after salvation that produces advanced spirituality. It is not a “spiritual zap” that produces instant sanctification. Though some grow more quickly and others more slowly, transformation is always progressive and never instantaneous.

How does the Holy Spirit guide Christians?

- ▣ What the filling of the Holy Spirit DOES NOT mean.
 - Filling is not a reference to the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, because He indwells every believer at the moment of salvation (Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19).
 - Filling is not a process of progressively receiving Him by degrees or in doses. When one receives the Holy Spirit, he receives *all* the Holy Spirit — “without measure” (Jn. 3:34)

How does the Holy Spirit guide Christians?

- ▣ What the filling of the Holy Spirit DOES NOT mean.
 - Filling is not the same as the baptism of the Spirit. Baptism is the work of the Holy Spirit to unite the believer to Christ and place him in Christ's body (1 Cor. 12:13; Rom. 6:3ff)
 - Filling is not the same as being sealed, or secured, by Him (1:13). This is an accomplished fact.

How does the Holy Spirit guide Christians?

- What the filling of the Holy Spirit DOES mean (Eph. 5:18)
 - To be filled with the Holy Spirit is to LIVE for the God-ordained PURPOSES of our lives
 - Filling by the Spirit also means that the believer is CONTROLLED by the Spirit
 - Filling by the Spirit finally means that the believer does not RESIST the working of the Spirit (4:30)
 - Summary: the filling of the Holy Spirit refers to the ongoing submission of the believer to the Holy Spirit so His work and activity can be accomplished through the believer.

How does the Holy Spirit guide Christians?

- How one is filled by the Holy Spirit:
 - The believer is to be filled *by* the Holy Spirit, and what the Holy Spirit fills Him *with* is SCRIPTURE.
 - If we want to be wise and controlled by the Holy Spirit, we will do everything we can to INGEST the Word of God as much as we can.
 - Because of that, the degree to which we are CONTROLLED by the Holy Spirit will be revealed primarily by how much we LOVE and TAKE IN the Word of God.
 - To be filled with the HOLY SPIRIT, be filled with His WORD.

How does the Spirit use the Scriptures?

- The Bible speaks DIRECTLY to many circumstances and decisions.
 - This is the will of God — abstain from SEXUAL IMMORALITY (1 Thess. 4:3).
 - This is the will of God — be CAREFUL with how you live and take advantage of GOSPEL opportunities because of the evilness of our times (Eph. 5:15-17).

How does the Spirit use the Scriptures?

- This is the will of God — be ENSLAVED to CHRIST (Eph. 6:6)
- This is the will of God — RENEW your mind so you do things that are good and acceptable and perfect (Rom. 12:2).
- This is the will of God — REPENTANCE for sin (2 Cor. 7:9-11).
- This is the will of God — doing RIGHT (1 Pt. 2:15)
- Every command in Scripture is a revelation of God's will.

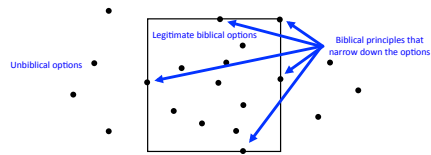
How does the Spirit use the Scriptures?

- The Bible speaks INDIRECTLY to other circumstances.
 - The Bible does not speak to every DECISION we need to make.
 - The Bible does provide PRINCIPLES that govern all the kinds of decisions we need to make.

How does the Spirit use the Scriptures?

- The Bible speaks INDIRECTLY to other circumstances.
 - Here is the summary principle: live by the FLESH and you will do the deeds of the FLESH; live by the SPIRIT and you will do the deeds of the SPIRIT (Rom. 8:13-14; Gal. 5:13ff; Ps. 37:4). Augustine: "Love God and do what you will."

How does the Spirit use the Scriptures?



How does the Spirit use the Scriptures?

- In ALL circumstances, the Bible is SUFFICIENT to guide the believer to a God-honoring decision (2 Pt. 1:3).

How does the Spirit use the Scriptures?

*"...there is no way to know God's will and to receive His guidance apart from the Scriptures. This must be made clear to every counselee...[And] there are scriptural principles and practices to cover all circumstances of life, available to those who take the time and make the effort to understand and know the Bible adequately."
[Jay Adams]*

COUNSELING EXAM 20

Would you work cooperatively with a physician or psychologist?

There are *legitimate* uses for medicine

- LUKE was a medical doctor (Col. 4:14)
- Paul instructed Timothy to take MEDICINE (1 Tim. 5:23)
- If a person is experiencing physical problems that are not moral in nature, go to a medical doctor to determine if treatment is required.

There are *illegitimate* uses for medicine

- All people are composed of at least two parts — the INTERNAL man and the EXTERNAL man (2 Cor. 4:16). The doctor takes care of the PHYSICAL body and the pastor, elder, and believer cares for the SPIRITUAL soul.

"...it is just as 'Christian' to go to the doctor for a medical problem as it is to go to a pastor for a marriage problem. Christians embrace medical science and medical treatment as a mark of God's common grace to care for bodies, which God made good. Because of this theological reality my personal creed is, 'When in doubt, check it out.'..."

"...That means I encourage a physical evaluation from anyone who is manifesting symptoms that could be interpreted in any way as an organic medical problem. The physical findings of a competent medical professional are our ally in caring well for people." [Heath Lambert]

There are *illegitimate* uses for medicine

- It is ILLEGITIMATE to go to a doctor (physical care) for a moral problem (spiritual care).
- It is LEGITIMATE to go to a medical doctor to see if a medical problem is producing a susceptibility to sin.
