

THE WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN PEOPLE'S LIVES IN THE CHURCH AGE

A. What the Holy Spirit does in a person's life before he/she receives Christ (John 16:7-11):

1. He reproves people of sin (convinces them that they are sinners and convicts them of their sin).
2. He reproves people of righteousness (convicts them of their lack of righteousness and convinces them that they need righteousness in order to be acceptable to God – Phil. 3:4-9 is an example).
3. He reproves people of judgment (convinces them that God will judge their sin)

Felix is an example of someone being reprovved (convicted, convinced, exposed) by the Holy Spirit as he heard Paul preach God's Word to him (Acts 24:24-25).

B. What the Holy Spirit does in a person's life at the moment he/she receives Christ:

1. He gives the "washing of regeneration" (Titus 3:5 & I Cor. 6:11) = born again; sins washed away.
2. He baptizes (places) Believers into the body of Christ (I Cor. 12:13) = makes them partakers of Christ's death and resurrection (Rom. 6:3-4).
3. He gives spiritual gifts to Believers (Eph. 4:6-11 / Rom. 12:3-8 / I Cor. 12:1-11 / I Peter 4:8-11).
Note: the sign gifts of miracles, healing, and tongues stopped towards the end of the Apostles' lives. Paul's inability to heal Trophimus and Timothy indicate this (see I Tim. 5:23 & II Tim. 4:21).
4. He justifies Believers (I Cor. 6:11 / Rom. 3:24-26) = clears of guilt; gives righteousness of God.
5. He takes up residence in, or indwells, Believers (I Cor. 3:16, 6:19-20 / Rom. 8:9-10 / Col. 1:27).
6. He seals Believers (Eph. 1:13 & 4:30) = confirmed; mark of ownership; down payment.
7. He sanctifies Believers (I Cor. 6:11) = sets them apart as holy for serving the Lord.
8. He fills believers, giving the desire and power to obey God's Word (Eph. 5:18-21 / Phil. 2:13).

C. What the Holy Spirit does in a person's life after he/she receives Christ:

1. He produces fruit (Gal. 5:22-23). I believe this only happens as we yield to Him and stay in fellowship with God by obeying Him as John 15:4-11 describes.
2. He motivates every Christian to witness for Jesus Christ (Acts 1:8 / I John 4:13-15)
Note: The Believers in Acts 8:1-4 and Phillip in Acts 8:26-40 are examples of this fact.
3. He calls people to special ministries and gives direction for ministry (Acts 8:29, 13:1-4, 16:6-7).
4. He intercedes for Christians (Rom. 8:26-27).
5. He gives Believers assurance that they are the children of God (Rom. 8:16-17 / I John 4:13).
6. He teaches and gives understanding of the things of God (I Cor. 2:14 / Jn. 14:26, 16:12-14).
7. He produces change in Christians' lives, using God's powerful word (II Cor. 3:18).
8. He fills believers, giving the desire and power to obey God's Word (Eph. 5:18-21 / Phil. 2:13).