

Holy Spirit Sabbath School Lessons Lesson 3 – The Divinity of the Holy Spirit

Sabbath Afternoon:

Firstly, we will have a look at the texts quoted in the “Read for this Week’s Study”

Acts 5:1-11 “But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, 2 And kept back *part* of the price, his wife also being privy *to it*, and brought a certain part, and laid *it* at the apostles’ feet. 3 But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to **lie to the Holy Ghost**, and to keep back *part* of the price of the land? 4 Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but **unto God**. 5 And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things. 6 And the young men arose, wound him up, and carried *him* out, and buried *him*. 7 And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not knowing what was done, came in. 8 And Peter answered unto her, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? And she said, Yea, for so much. 9 Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt **the Spirit of the Lord**? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband *are* at the door, and shall carry thee out. 10 Then fell she down straightway at his feet, and yielded up the ghost: and the young men came in, and found her dead, and, carrying *her* forth, buried *her* by her husband. 11 And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things.”

Here if you read the context you can see that “the Holy Ghost” is referred to as God, but also in v: 9 as “the Spirit of the Lord”, which as we can see from the following texts, is who this whole passage is talking about...

Ephesians 4:4-6 “There is one body, and **one Spirit**, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5 **One Lord**, one faith, one baptism, 6 One God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all.”

Philippians 2:11 “And *that* every tongue should confess that **Jesus Christ is Lord**, to the glory of God the Father.”

2 Colossians 3:17 “Now **the Lord is that Spirit**: and where **the Spirit of the Lord is**, there *is* liberty.”

1 Corinthians 15:45 “And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam (Christ) *was made a quickening spirit*.”

Romans 8:9 “But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not **the Spirit of Christ**, he is none of his.”

Clearly if we compare scripture with scripture we see that Ananias and Sapphira were lying to Christ as clearly identified in Acts 5:9 above.

1 Corinthians 2:10-16 “But God hath revealed *them* unto us **by his Spirit**: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. 11* For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but **the Spirit of God**. 12* Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but **the spirit which is of God**; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. 13* Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which **the Holy Ghost teacheth**; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14* But the natural man receiveth not the things of **the Spirit of God**: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned. 15* But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. 16* For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

The text quoted was only v:10-11 but when read in the all-important context of the rest of the chapter, you find, even in the verse 10 and 11 that it is indeed and in truth “the spirit which is of God”

The words “is of” prove this from the concordance reference as follows...

1537 ek ek ek - a primary preposition denoting origin (the point whence action or motion proceeds), from, out (of place, time, or cause; literal or figurative

1) out of, from, by, away from

So, we can rightly say “the spirit which is from God” or “the spirit which is out of God” which agrees 100% with the following Bible text and Spirit of Prophecy quote...

John 15:26 “But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you **from the Father**, even the Spirit of truth, **which proceedeth from the Father**, he shall testify of me:”

“The Holy Spirit, **which proceeds from the only-begotten Son of God**, binds the human agent, body, soul, and spirit, to the perfect, divine-human nature of Christ. This union is represented by the union of the vine and the branches. Finite man is united to the manhood of Christ. **Through faith human nature is assimilated with Christ’s nature. We are made one with God in Christ.** {1Selected Messages 251.1}

And also, fits perfectly with the following quote which explains how they share the same spirit...

“But turning from all lesser representations, we behold God in Jesus. Looking unto Jesus we see that it is the glory of our God to give. "I do nothing of Myself," said Christ; "the living Father hath sent Me, and I live by the Father." "I seek not Mine own glory," but the glory of Him that sent Me. John 8:28; 6:57; 8:50; 7:18. In these words is set forth the great principle which is the law of life for the universe. **All things Christ received from God**, but He took to give. So in the heavenly courts, in His ministry for all created beings: **through the beloved Son, the Father's life flows out to all**; through the Son it returns, in praise and joyous service, a tide of love, to **the great Source of all**. And thus through Christ the circuit of beneficence is complete, representing the character of **the great Giver**, the law of life. {Desire of Ages 21.2}

God the Father is “the great Source of all” and “the great Giver”

His life, which is His spirit, “flows out to all”, including to His Son Christ Jesus in all its fullness, and “through the beloved Son” to us.

Isaiah 63:10-14 “But they rebelled, and vexed **his holy Spirit**: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, *and* he fought against them. 11 Then he remembered the days of old, Moses, *and* his people, *saying*, Where *is* he that brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of his flock? where *is* he that put **his holy Spirit** within him? 12 That led *them* by the right hand of Moses with his glorious arm, dividing the water before them, to make himself an everlasting name? 13 That led them through the deep, as an horse in the wilderness, *that* they should not stumble? 14 As a beast goeth down into the valley, **the Spirit of the LORD** caused him to rest: so didst thou lead thy people, to make thyself a glorious name.

We will deal with this one more fully when we get to Tuesday’s lesson with the full context considered but just here we notice “his holy Spirit” mentioned twice and “the Spirit of the LORD” showing where the “Spirit” comes from.

Titus 3:4-6 “But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, 5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; 6 Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour;”

How much clearer do you need it to be?

Here the text tells us where the Spirit comes from.

“God our Saviour” sheds His “Holy Ghost” “on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour”

This text does not teach that the “Holy Ghost” is a separate being called God the Holy Spirit, but teaches clearly that God sends His spirit to us through Christ our Saviour, which is exactly what is said in the quote above from Desire of Ages 12.2

Romans 8:11 “But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.”

We will deal with this one when we get to Wednesday’s lesson because of the false comments there but notice again “the Spirit of him” referring to God the Father and also “his Spirit that dwelleth in you” also in context talking about the spirit of God.

1 Peter 1:2 “Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.”

We will also deal with this one when we come to Thursday’s lesson because of the false comments there.

Memory Text: 2 Corinthians 13:14 “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion (fellowship – NASB) of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.”

No doubt this text is used to imply a trinity by mentioning three, but we need to understand what the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy actually mean by mentioning these three. Does the Bible teach what the trinity doctrine says as follows?...

28 Fundamental beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Belief 2. Trinity “There is one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a unity of three co-eternal Persons.”

No, most certainly not...

Ephesians 4:4-6 “There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5* **One Lord**, one faith, one baptism, 6* **One God and Father of all**, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

“They have one God and one Saviour; and **one Spirit--the Spirit of Christ--**is to bring unity into their ranks.” {9T 189.3}

The Apostle Paul says in Ephesians that the “One God” is the Father, while the Trinity doctrine teaches that one God = Father, Son and Holy Spirit, which totally contradicts the teachings of Scripture and the Spirit of Prophecy.

We agree with the comment on the Sabbath Afternoon page that says:

“Here we need to compare scripture with scripture in order to study carefully what God has revealed in His Word about the Holy Spirit. In doing so, we should not affirm less than what Scripture states, and we also should not “exceed what is written” (**1 Cor. 4:6, NASB**). This topic demands a teachable attitude of humility; we should not make our human reasoning about God the standard of how the Holy Spirit should be understood. Instead, we should accept and testify to what Scripture affirms, no matter how hard some of the concepts might be for us to grasp fully.”

But as you will see as we go through each day’s lesson, the compilers of this lesson pamphlet have not done what they say should be done, they have not compared scripture with scripture to show the truth but to dig themselves deeper and deeper into error and to totally contradict the whole of the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy and only bring more Babylonian wine of confusion into the church.

The leadership of the SDA church have not shown “a teachable attitude of humility” but have indeed brought in “human reasoning” and “cunningly devised fables”. They have not accepted what the “Scripture affirms” but hold to a doctrine of the “son of perdition”, the very central pillar of “the man of sin”

As the People of the Book, we need a simple “thus saith the Lord” not as is stated that “the deity of the Holy Spirit” “can be inferred”.

Yes, the holy spirit is “deity” because it is “the spirit of God”, it is His life, His breath, His omnipresence with us and in us through His word.

Sunday:

Starting from the very first statement we find error.

*The Bible **does** present a systematic description of the divinity of the Holy Spirit, exactly the opposite of what they state, because as already stated, the spirit comes **from** God. Anything that is a part of God would necessarily be “divinity” or divine because God is divine.*

They are so desperate to prove their theory of a trinity that they separate God from His holy spirit and in so doing they have to come up with all kinds of statements like those in Sunday’s lesson to try and prove it.

The reason “There are several biblical passages where the same activity is attributed to God and then also to the Holy Spirit.” is so obvious that all the passages quoted show clearly that it is God the Father working by His own omnipresent Spirit, which is part of him and it is so sad that they are so blinded by error that they can’t see it.

*“If the Holy Spirit were not God...” Yes, the Holy Spirit is God, “**the Spirit of God**” / “**the Spirit of Christ**” that is why “the apostle Peter puts God and the Holy Spirit on the same level” and “Peter clearly equates the Holy Spirit with God” because when the bible writers spoke of the holy spirit, they were always talking about God working through His own spirit. They all knew the truth, that was once believed by the Pioneers of the original Seventh-day Adventist Church that when speaking about the Holy Spirit or the Spirit of God they were talking about God the Father himself, not two separate beings.*

The very texts that they use to try and prove that the holy spirit is a separate being to the Father, actually prove beyond any doubt that they are talking about exactly the same person.

That is why we are counselled to compare scripture with scripture, here a little, there a little, line upon line, precept upon precept. By doing this you get the full picture and if you do that with the whole Bible

on the subject of God the Father and the holy spirit you will find that it is talking about the same person, unless it is talking about the Spirit of Christ.

Monday:

The Holy Spirit's Divine Attributes?

As quoted above, all the texts used to prove the Holy Spirit's divine attributes are actually talking about God himself. We have included context to prove the point

1 Corinthians 2:10-12 "But God hath revealed them unto us **by his Spirit**: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. ¹¹For what man knoweth the things of a man, save **the spirit of man** which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but **the Spirit of God**. ¹²Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but **the spirit which is of God**; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God."

Firstly, is "the spirit of man" a different person to the man himself?

No, we all know that.

Compared with...

Isaiah 40:13-14 "Who hath directed **the Spirit of the LORD**, or being his counsellor hath taught him? ¹⁴With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?"

Here we see clearly from both these passages that instead of teaching a separate being, they both teach that it is "the Spirit of God" or "the Spirit of the LORD" "the spirit which is of God"

Compare the above text in Isaiah with how the apostle Paul quotes exactly the same text in two different places:

Romans 11:34 "For who hath known **the mind of the Lord**? or who hath been his counsellor?"

1 Corinthians 2:16 "For who hath known **the mind of the Lord**, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ."

The "spirit of the LORD" and "the mind of the Lord" are both the same.

Let me ask you a question, is "the mind of the Lord" a different person to the Lord?

No, definitely not.

Then why do they say that "the spirit of the Lord" is a different person?

Psalms 139:7 "Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?"

How much clearer do you need it to be? Where in this text does it tell you anything about the spirit being a separate being from God. The author of this Psalm is addressing God himself as "O LORD" and first he calls the spirit "thy spirit" and then "thy presence".

If we understand anything about how the hebrews wrote in scripture, they used what is termed "parallelism". They would say the same thing twice but in different ways, sometimes in the same verse and sometimes just in the context of the verse. Here we see this parallelism with the words "Whither shall I go from thy spirit or whither shall I flee from thy presence?"

Here we can see that "thy spirit" and "thy presence" are the same thing. In this case, it is the LORD present through His omnipresent spirit.

Hebrews 9:14 "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"

The Spirit is eternal because it is the Spirit of God the Father, who is eternal. The Father has given His spirit to Jesus Christ and as the Spirit of Christ, it is also eternal and as we have seen before...

Ephesians 4:4-6 "There is one body, and **one Spirit**, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5 **One Lord**, one faith, one baptism, 6 **One God** and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all."

Philippians 2:11 "And *that* every tongue should confess that **Jesus Christ is Lord**, to the glory of God the Father."

2 Colossians 3:17 "Now **the Lord is that Spirit**: and where **the Spirit of the Lord is**, there *is* liberty."

1 Corinthians 15:45 "And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam (Christ) *was made* a quickening spirit."

Romans 8:9 “But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not **the Spirit of Christ**, he is none of his.”

Compare with...

1 Timothy 6:13-16 “I give thee charge in the sight of **God**, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession; ¹⁴That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: ¹⁵Which in his times he shall shew, who is **the blessed and only Potentate**, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; ¹⁶Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.”

Who is the above passage actually talking about?

There is only one being in all the universe that this could refer to as “the blessed and only Potentate” or supreme ruler and that is God the Father –

“Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see.”

We know it is talking about the Father because it says “no man hath seen, nor can see.”, especially if we compare it with what the following scriptures say...

John 1:18 “No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.”

John 5:37 “And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape.”

Luke 1:35 “And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.”

Here is another example of Hebrew parallelism. The power of the Highest is the Spirit of God the Father. He is the only being that is called “the Highest”

If this text were to be taken as the trinitarians say, then Jesus Christ is the son of the Holy Ghost and not the Son of God the Father. Jesus never said I am the Son of God the Holy Spirit. The Bible never says that Jesus is the only begotten Son of God the Holy Spirit, but says over and over that He is the Son of God, the Son of the one He constantly calls His Father.

The power of the Highest is the spirit of the Highest, because God the Father does all things through His omnipresent, omnipotent spirit.

Compare with...

Psalms 104:24-30 “O **LORD**, how manifold are **thy works**! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of **thy riches**. ²⁵So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts. ²⁶There go the ships: there is that leviathan, whom thou hast made to play therein. ²⁷These wait all upon thee; that thou mayest give them their meat in due season. ²⁸That thou givest them they gather: thou openest thine hand, they are filled with good. ²⁹Thou hidest **thy face**, they are troubled: thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust. ³⁰Thou sendest forth **thy spirit**, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth.”

Again we see that the Psalmist is addressing “O LORD”.

Question: are “thy works”, “thy riches”, “thy face” different beings than the “LORD”?

No, certainly not, that would be impossible as they are either things that the “LORD” has done or are a part of the “LORD” like His face.

Why then in the same context do they separate the “LORD” from “thy spirit” in verse 30?

It actually uses the word “thy” which means “your”

The comments in Monday’s lesson only cause confusion and are explained by what is written above, but just to notice a few points, they mention “the wisdom of God”, the scripture says that Jesus Christ is the wisdom of God.

Over and over again we see their desperate efforts to separate God from His spirit and call it a separate God, but by comparing the texts quoted with the context of the texts themselves and the context of the whole Bible we see that it teaches exactly the opposite of what these quarterly lessons are trying to teach.

Tuesday:

Biblical Hints

Again they do the same things as mentioned above, following the same flawed reasoning and thus coming to the same erroneous conclusion that the Holy Spirit is someone separate from God, but the texts themselves show the truth and prove that the Spirit is part of God the Father.

Isaiah 63:10-14 “But they rebelled, and vexed **his holy Spirit**: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them. ¹¹Then he remembered the days of old, Moses, and his people, saying, Where is he that brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of his flock? where is he that put **his holy Spirit** within him? ¹²That led them by the right hand of Moses with his glorious arm, dividing the water before them, to make himself an everlasting name? ¹³That led them through the deep, as an horse in the wilderness, that they should not stumble? ¹⁴As a beast goeth down into the valley, **the Spirit of the LORD** caused him to rest: so didst thou lead thy people, to make thyself a glorious name.”

Compare with...

Numbers 14:11 “And the LORD said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them?”

Deuteronomy 32:12 “So the LORD alone did lead him, and there was no strange god with him.”

Here we see again, by comparing these texts that they are all talking about the same events and the same God that was present with His people and was being rebelled against and vexed by their constant refusal to follow Him.

We see the same thing today, God had revealed this truth to the Pioneers of the SDA church but now the church has rebelled against God and chosen another god to lead them, the Trinity God, which the founders of this church never believed in, but strongly opposed in their writings.

The Spirit of Prophecy saw this and gave the following warning to His church through His servant as follows...

“The enemy of souls has sought to bring in the supposition that a great reformation was to take place among Seventh-day Adventists, and that this reformation would consist in giving up the doctrines which stand as the pillars of our faith, and engaging in a process of reorganization. Were this reformation to take place, what would result? The principles of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church, would be discarded. Our religion would be changed. The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years would be accounted as error. A new organization would be established. Books of a new order would be written. A system of intellectual philosophy would be introduced. The founders of this system would go into the cities, and do a wonderful work. The Sabbath of course, would be lightly regarded, as also the God who created it. Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the new movement. The leaders would teach that virtue is better than vice, but God being removed, they would place their dependence on human power, which, without God, is worthless. Their foundation would be built on the sand, and storm and tempest would sweep away the structure. – {1

Selected Messages 204.2}

This is a prophecy about the SDA church and it has come true 100%.

*It has indeed consisted in “giving up the doctrines which stand as the pillars of our faith,” and engaged “in a process of reorganization” The “principals of truth that God in His wisdom has given to the remnant church” **have** “been discarded” **and** “our religion” **has been** “changed” **and** “The fundamental principles that have sustained the work for the last fifty years” **have been** “accounted as error”*

I was told by my former SDA church pastor, when I shared these truths with the brethren via our church bulletin, that “we don’t believe this anymore”, so I was removed from the position of bulletin editor.

*This truth that we share with you in answer to these Holy Spirit quarterly lessons are what the Pioneers of the SDA church used to believe, but now we find that they are “**accounted as error**” by the church leadership.*

*This prophecy goes on to call it “A new organisation” **and** “the new movement” **and worst of all** “God being removed” **and** “without God”*

So, we see from this prophecy that the church would remove the one true God of the Bible and choose another god to take His place, which we have seen clearly is the trinity god of Babylon.

I will not waste any more space here commenting on the rest of Tuesday’s lesson because it is the same error that has already been proven to be totally contrary to the plain teaching of Scripture.

Wednesday:

Divine Work of the Holy Spirit

As we saw above, the texts that are quoted only prove the opposite of what the lesson study says. We all know that the agent of the new birth experience is "the Spirit of Christ"

Colossians 1:25-28 "Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; ²⁶Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: ²⁷To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: ²⁸Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus."

It is "Christ in you" that is the hope of glory.

And Christ dwells in us by His Spirit...

Ephesians 3:14-19 "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, ¹⁶That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might **by his Spirit in the inner man**; ¹⁷**That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith**; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; ¹⁹And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, **that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.**"

Romans 8:9-11 "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that **the Spirit of God dwell in you**. Now if any man have not **the Spirit of Christ**, he is none of his. ¹⁰And if **Christ be in you**, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies **by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.**"

1 Peter 1:1. "Searching what, or what manner of time **the Spirit of Christ** which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow."

These texts are so clear they need no comment.

Romans 8:11, in its context, clearly shows us that it is the spirit of God the Father.

Thursday:

The Importance of His Divinity

Again, the error is pressed home that the holy spirit is a separate God to God the Father and Jesus Christ, which we have shown above to be totally false.

The scriptures quoted again only go to prove the opposite of what the lesson authors say.

They use the lesson on this day to imply that we should worship the Holy Spirit which we are never told to do in the Bible or the Spirit of Prophecy.

Friday

These passages among others, in the book Evangelism, authored by Leroy Froom, are an abomination. He deliberately took statements from the Spirit of Prophecy out of their context to try to prove the trinity doctrine and bring it into the SDA church.

I cannot leave off this study without commenting on the last quote from Acts of the Apostles in Friday's lesson. Here is the whole quote, without the missing bits, with some extra context for clarity...

"It is not essential for us to be able to define just what the Holy Spirit is. Christ tells us that the Spirit is the Comforter, "the Spirit of truth, **which proceedeth from the Father.**" It is plainly declared regarding the Holy Spirit that, in His work of guiding men into all truth, "He shall not speak of Himself." John 15:26; 16:13. – {AA 51.3}

The nature of the Holy Spirit is a mystery. Men cannot explain it, because the Lord has not revealed it to them. Men having fanciful views may bring together passages of Scripture and put a human construction on them, but the acceptance of these views will not strengthen the church. Regarding such mysteries, which are too deep for human understanding, silence is golden. – {AA 52.1}

The office of the Holy Spirit is distinctly specified in the words of Christ: "When He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." John 16:8. It is the Holy Spirit that convicts of sin. If the sinner responds to the quickening influence of the Spirit, he will be brought to repentance and aroused to the importance of obeying the divine requirements. – {AA 52.2}

If we compare this quote with the following, "line upon line, here a little, there a little" we find out who this is talking about.

"It is not essential for you to know and be able to define just what the Holy Spirit is. Christ tells us that the Holy Spirit is the Comforter, and the Comforter is the Holy Ghost, "the Spirit of truth, which the Father shall send in My name." "I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that

He may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him, for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you” [John 14:16, 17]. **This refers to the omnipresence of the Spirit of Christ, called the Comforter.** Again Jesus says, “I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth is come, He will guide you into all truth” [John 16:12, 13]. – {14MR 179.2}

While we see from these two quotes that we cannot “define just what the Holy Spirit is” because “The nature of the Holy Spirit is a mystery” yet it goes on to explain exactly who the holy spirit is, it is “the omnipresence of the Spirit of Christ, called the Comforter”

Compare this with the following statements which make it abundantly clear...

‘The Saviour is our Comforter. This I have proved Him to be.” – {19MR 293.3}

“How essential that we have the enlightenment of the Spirit of God; for thus only can we see the glory of Christ, and by beholding become changed from character to character in and through faith in Christ. We turn from the picture of our shortcomings to behold the atonement made for us, and we rejoice as we know that we may be clothed with Christ’s righteousness. In Him all fulness dwells. He has grace and pardon for every soul. As by faith we look to Jesus, our faith pierces the shadow, and we adore God for His wondrous love in giving **Jesus the Comforter.** – {19MR 297.3}

So, while we cannot understand the nature of the Holy Spirit, how it works, we can certainly know who it is which is not a mystery at all.

Many trinitarians use this quote to cut off discussion regarding who the Holy Spirit is by saying “silence is golden” in the hope of silencing the voice of truth, but as we have seen, the Truth will shine forth brighter and brighter till the perfect day.