

The Holy Spirit and Spirituality – Part 11

Grieving and Resisting the Holy Spirit

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing an exciting series of studies on The Holy Spirit and Spirituality. Our topic today: Grieving and resisting the Holy Spirit.

Scripture Theme Song: The fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23)

- 1) Resisting the Holy Spirit
 - a) Acts 7:51—if the Holy Spirit is omnipotent, how is it possible to resist Him?
 - b) Stephen was speaking to a group of religious leaders who were always resisting the Holy Spirit. What should we do if we find ourselves in a group that is always resisting the Holy Spirit?
- 2) Grieving the Holy Spirit
 - a) Ephesians 4:30 (Why was Jesus grieving in the Garden of Gethsemane? Matthew 26:37-38)
 - b) Why is the Holy Spirit grieved by certain behaviors listed in Ephesians 4:25-31? What do these behaviors all have in common?
 - c) What conduct brings joy to the heart of the Holy Spirit, rather than grieving Him? Ephesians 4:1-3, 32-5:2
- 3) Attempting to quench the Holy Spirit
 - a) Is it actually possible to quench or extinguish the Holy Spirit?
 - b) 1 Thessalonians 5:19
- c) Is it possible to unintentionally quench the Holy Spirit? How might that happen? 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21
- d) Examples of people attempting to quench the Spirit
 - i) Matthew 12:22-30—was this attempt to quench the Holy Spirit successful?
 - ii) Acts 7:54-58—both resisting and seeking to quench the Holy Spirit
 - iii) Acts 13:4-12—was this attempt to quench the Holy Spirit successful?
- e) Why is attempting to quench the Holy Spirit so dangerous?
- 4) Is there an unforgivable sin against the Holy Spirit?
 - a) Matthew 12:31-32
 - b) Some people think the unpardonable sin is a specific transgression, like murder or idolatry. What important truth do we learn in 1 John 1:9?
 - c) It is a serious offense to blaspheme against the Holy Spirit, but even that sin will be forgiven if we repent. Jesus did not say “it cannot be forgiven” but rather “it will not be forgiven.”
 - d) So how does a person come to the place where he or she no longer desires to ask for forgiveness?
- 5) A prayer of repentance and invitation
 - a) After committing adultery, deception, and murder, King David was in great danger of eternal separation from God. What important lessons can we learn from his prayer of repentance and invitation? Psalm 51:1-12
 - b) Share a time when you prayed a similar prayer.