

Statements concerning the indwelling of the Spirit were not placed in the scriptures as problems to be wrestled with. They were placed there for one's assurance and consolation. A Christian sustains a very close fellowship with deity — so close that it can be said that he dwells in deity and deity dwells in him. In persecution, trials, temptations, and death his recognition of this close relationship sustains him and helps him to become triumphant in Christ. The apostles never felt the need to explain how this indwelling takes place. Pentecostalism and other misconceptions concerning the Holy Spirit force the Christian of this generation to be concerned with this problem. If, however, statements concerning the indwelling of the Spirit become primarily to him a problem to be wrestled with; if his obsession with the "how" of the Spirit's indwelling blinds him to the "fact" of that indwelling, he makes a serious mistake and may fail to find the joy and consolation that should be gained through the Lord's promise.

Differences will continue to exist, but a constant remembrance of these three facts should protect any one of us from dangerous conclusions in relation to this question.

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Marietta church of Christ

8150 Driggers St.
Jacksonville, FL 32220

Times of Worship

Sunday:

9 am - Bible Classes / 10 am - Worship / 5 pm - Worship

Wednesday:

7 pm - Bible Study/Worship

Evangelist: Devin Barber

www.mariettacoc.com



I Hate Sin

"Abhor that which is evil" (Rom. 12:9)

How anyone can contemplate the terribleness of sin and what it has done to all of mankind, and not detest sin, is hard to understand.

SIN IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

Every physical pain since Eden

Every tear of sorrow ever shed

Every mistreated husband or wife

Every divorce that destroyed a home; Every abuse ever heaped on a child

Every broken-hearted parent over a wayward offspring

Every illegitimate child ever born

Every ruined and misspent life

Every loved one lost by death

Every injustice done to any man

Every war that ever was waged

Every ill-feeling toward any brother

Every disturbance in any church

Every division and apostasy from Truth

(ad infinitum)

But what is of graver consequence, sin has estranged every sinful soul from God. Every soul that goes down to hell will be there because of sin.

"The soul that sinneth it shall die" (Ezek. 18:20). "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God;" "The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 3:23; 6: 23). Sin damns!!!

The terribleness of sin is seen in the extreme price that had to be paid to redeem man from sin. It cost heaven the Son of God. Sin holds man in such bondage that it is impossible for man to escape by any deed or merit of his own. It was necessary that a sinless offering be made to meet divine justice, so that man could be saved. Jesus, born of a virgin by the Holy Spirit, was God in the flesh to offer Himself for the sin of the world. "He came to deliver us from the present evil world" (Gal. 1:4).

"I hate sin!!" I have given the feeble efforts of life to the preaching of the gospel, God's power to save man from sin. I would that all persons would so hate sin that they would give the efforts of life to the overcoming of sin's power. There is no way to completely eradicate sin from the world in which we live, but it would be a far better world to live in if all men would apply the gospel's power to live as far above sin as possible. But only through Jesus Christ can this be made possible.

"How beautiful heaven must be!" There will be no sin there!

Written by; Morris D. Norman

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The Indwelling of the Spirit

Few people would question the fact that the Holy Spirit in some way dwells within the Christian. Paul wrote to the saints in Corinth: "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you..." (I Cor. 6:19). He further wrote, "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his" (Romans 8:9). There is considerable disagreement, however, as to how the Spirit dwells within a Christian. It is not our aim in this short article to deal with that issue, but we do want to suggest three facts that must be remembered as one studies the question.

The age of miracles is past. The only people in the gospel age who ever performed miracles were those who either received the baptism of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-4; 10:44-46) or received spiritual gifts through the laying on of the apostles' hands (Acts 8:5-23; 19:1-7). No one receives either of these today. The purpose of the miracles was to reveal and confirm truth (I Cor. 2:7-13; Mark 16:19,20). Since all truth has been revealed ([John 16:13](#)) there is no further need for miracles. One's conclusion, therefore, concerning the indwelling of the Spirit must be compatible with this fact.

The Christian is led by the Spirit through the scriptures, the word of God (Psa. 119:105; II Tim. 3: 16,17; Eph. 3:3,4). He does not have some inner voice, separate from the scriptures, that somehow guides him into infallible conclusions in relation to truth and right. Nor is there anything in the scriptures that suggests that God's providence somehow works through the indwelling of the Spirit. Consequently, one makes a serious mistake if he interprets his feelings or subjective thinking as some kind of message provided by the indwelling Spirit.

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