



Founder's Message 2019

The Case For The Holy Spirit

Believers, Greetings and Felicitations:

D. L. Moody correctly stated that **“One might as well try to hear without ears or breathe without lungs, as try to live a Christian life without the Spirit of God in your heart.”** This Moody statement is not here quoted to sanction Moody, but rather to sanction, even from a human source, the place of the Holy Spirit in the life of a Christian believer.

The 2019 Ministers' Institute Conference here in Fort Lauderdale will undertake the theological task of unfolding the Biblical position of the **dignity, personality and work** of the **Holy Spirit**. The study of the Holy Spirit in theological terms is called pneumatology. To do that, we believe the study should attempt to answer certain basic and fundamental questions.

- 1) **Who** is the Holy Spirit?
- 2) What does the Bible teach about the **Personhood** of the Holy Spirit?
- 3) The work of the Holy Spirit reference to **creation** and **revelation**?
- 4) Explain the role of the Holy Spirit in **conversion** and **sanctification**.
- 5) The doctrine of **spiritual gifts**.

These will represent but a few of the Institute's objectives as we undertake **“The Case for The Holy Spirit”**.

Our main class and convocation speakers and presenters have been given the task of lecturing daily on assigned specific topics:

- 1) The **Personhood** and **Deity** of the Holy Spirit
- 2) The Holy Spirit in **the Old Testament**
- 3) The Holy Spirit in Regard to Man's Salvation (**Pre and Post**)
- 4) **Spiritual Gifts**
- 5) **Symbols** of the Holy Spirit
- 6) The Holy Spirit in **Regeneration, Sanctification and Glorification**

These are some of the issues that the 2019 Institute is going to cover. A simple thesis statement that will narrow our purpose and expose the intent of the 2019 Institute simply put:

Christian believers should not be afraid or intimidated reference to the Holy Spirit. We should see Him as our Divine helper, guide and Divine source of spiritual strength. Forever cognizant that He is alive and active today in the lives of all those who will obey and serve God. As Christians, we ought to be eternally grateful that He is our permanent indwelling companion, **gifting** us to serve others and spiritually **empowering** us to live the divine life. Thus, when properly understood, our respect for His ministry and our fellowship will be greatly enhanced.

We believe that to the degree that we can faithfully, truthfully and prayerfully do that, it will be to that degree the 2019 **Ministers' Institute** will have value. Note finally, it is without doubt the power of the Holy Spirit is that which enables Christian believers to live lives commensurate with the intent of God. Finally, lastly, not only does the Holy Spirit **fill**

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and **empower**, but He also **leads** and **guides** the believer in Jesus Christ. “For all who are led by the Spirit of God are the sons of God” (**Rom. 8:14**).

The Greek word for Spirit (pneuma) can also be translated as **breath** or **wind**. Perhaps then it is not surprising that the Holy Spirit is seen and compared in scripture as breath and wind. Luke and John make this assertion in their volumes:

Luke writes: “...Suddenly a sound like a **violent wind** blowing came from heaven and filled the entire house where they were sitting.” (Acts 2:4)

John writes: “...the **wind** blows wherever it will, and you hear the sound it makes, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going. So it is with **every one** who is born of the Spirit.” (John 3:8)

These two statements communicate and lead to the conclusion that the Holy Spirit is: 1) **invisible**, 2) **immaterial**, 3) **powerful**, and **sovereignly** blows (works) where He intends. We therefore enter the 43rd Ministers’ Institute with a studied and student assurance that the Holy Spirit is the most important person on earth today.

“But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.” (Rom. 8:11)

The Golden Heights Church of Christ Leadership and Institute staff encourage you to **register early** and pray much for a Christ-centered and Holy Spirit-led 2019 Institute.

2019 Reservation Information

The clarion call is extended to all **men** and **women** of God to prepare **NOW** to attend the 43rd **W. F. Washington Theological Institute**. In 2019 the Institute will convene at:

Marriott Coral Springs Hotel, Golf Club and Convention Center Fort Lauderdale
Coral Springs, FL
(954-753-5598)

Be advised that the **deadline** for registration is **December 20th, 2018**. Be further advised that this is the “Gold Coast” of Florida and, in addition, it is “**the season**” down here. Prices will be through the roof if you do not register early. The Institute has negotiated a **\$174.00 per night** rate for all our guests. In order to get this price, you must register **before** the deadline of **December 20, 2018!**

Institute registration will remain at **\$160.00**. You are encouraged to send your registration early so you will be assured of free Institute gifts, packet, annual banquet and breakfast. We look forward with anticipatory **glee** in seeing you here at:

The Ministers’ Institute
January 20th – January 24th, 2019

(When registering, please reference Golden Heights Church of Christ Ministers’ Institute.)

Go to the website to keep updated!!
www.ministersinstituteconference.com

Respectfully,

W. F. Washington, Ph.D.

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