

The Holy Spirit and God's people.

As we head into another year may we grasp just how vital the Holy Spirit is to us as Christians and as a church.

1. God the Holy Spirit.

Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, or as His counsellor has taught Him? 40:13. Gen.1:2, Ps.33:6.

2. The Holy Spirit and us

a. He transforms us – we need his transforming, purging, reviving work.

transforming, life-giving: *Until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is counted as a forest. 32:15.*

purging: *When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and purged the blood of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and by the spirit of burning, 4:4. Matthew 3:11.*

reviving: *For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, and floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, and My blessing on your offspring; 44:3.*

b. He leads us – we need him to lead us in right paths, in safe paths, in restful paths.

in right paths: *"Woe to the rebellious children," says the LORD, "Who take counsel, but not of Me, and who devise plans, but not of My Spirit, that they may add sin to sin; 30:1.*

in safe paths: *Then he remembered the days of old, Moses and his people, saying: "Where is He who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of His flock? Where is He who put His Holy Spirit within them, 63:11.*

in restful paths: *As a beast goes down into the valley, and the Spirit of the LORD causes him to rest, so You lead Your people, to make Yourself a glorious name. 63:14.*

c. He fights for us – we cannot take on the enemy on our own.

When the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him. 59:19.

d. He is grieved by us – we need to be careful of grieving him by our sin.

But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit; so He turned Himself against them as an enemy, and He fought against them. 63:10. Eph.4:30, Ps.51:11-12.