

The Eternal Spirit Descriptive Titles

by Willie Mullan

The Eternal Spirit is a divine person who is sovereign over all the works of the devil and indwells every believer.

Duration: 1:00:47

Scripture: Matthew 12:22, John 16:13, Acts 5:7

Topics: "Eternal Spirit"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker discusses the various titles given to the Holy Spirit in the Bible. He emphasizes that although there are many descriptive titles, there is only one Spirit. He uses the example of Edward Carson, a well-known figure, to illustrate how different titles can refer to the same person. The speaker also highlights the importance of recognizing the Holy Spirit as a person, as shown in the passage where Ananias and Sapphira lied to the Holy Spirit, proving that the Holy Spirit is God.

Transcript

Now we launched this subject last Tuesday, and I took the time to prove that the Eternal Spirit is a person. So many of the cults around us, like the Mormons and Jehovah Witnesses, they try to say that the Holy Spirit is just an influence coming from God. Try to tell me that the Holy Spirit is just a power that comes from God, but not a person.

And we prove that the Holy Spirit, or the Eternal Spirit, that He is a person, and we prove this by the sayings of the Saviour. Because when the Lord Jesus is talking about the Holy Spirit, He uses the masculine pronoun, when He is come, I will send Him unto you. And if the Holy Spirit was an influence, He should use the word it, He should use the neuter.

But our Lord Jesus used the masculine gender. But not only did we prove it from the sayings of the Saviour, we proved it from the sins of the saints. And when Ananias and Sapphira came before Peter, and pretended to lay the whole sum of money that they got for their dwelling place before the Lord, it was only a pharisaical hypocritical pretense.

It wasn't genuine at all. You remember how Peter looked at Ananias and said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost? And I want to know from all who differ with me, how you can lie to an influence. I want to know.

I need to know. You can only tell lies to a person. And so we found out not only from the sayings of the Saviour, but the sins of the saints.

And we also found out from the sin of sins, because the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost that finds no forgiveness in this world, nor in the world to come, would tell us that this Holy Spirit must be someone that we'll need to work very carefully with. And so we went on to look at not only the personality, but the deity. And when you use the phrase the Eternal Spirit, I would think you have the subject sewn up all right.

Because eternity is a tremendous thing, you know. I think sometimes the way we talk about eternity puts us all wrong. Sometimes I hear some of the young fellows around here talking about eternity past.

But that won't do. Even if you go beyond the foundation of the world, right there, you can't talk about eternity past. How would you talk about eternity past? It's a contradiction in terms.

If it's eternity, then it can't be past, it's eternity. Nor you can't talk about eternity to come either. How will you talk about eternity to come? Why if it's to come, it cannot be eternal.

When we're talking about eternity, there's neither beginning nor end, it's eternity. And if this phrase can be found in the can, the Eternal Spirit, then this is someone who is from eternity to eternity. And I don't think we have any trouble with the deity.

Then I left out a bit, we were going to talk about the residency of the Spirit, how this divine person would really come to indwell the believer. And I'm putting that back another week, because I feel now that I can bring it in best next Tuesday, when we're going to look at the symbols of the Spirit. Because there are some great symbols used, such as the dove, such as rivers, and so on.

There are many symbols, but we'll look at them next Tuesday. I feel that we should look up the descriptive titles given to the Eternal Spirit in the New Testament this evening. And there are many descriptive titles, you'll find I've only used a few of them.

Sometimes He is called the Spirit of God, sometimes He is called the Spirit of the Living God, sometimes He is called the Spirit of Christ, sometimes He is called the Holy Spirit of promise, and so on. But these are only a few of the descriptive titles of the Eternal Spirit. Let me make it absolutely clear to you that although this person has many and varied descriptive titles, remember there's just one Spirit.

This is made absolutely watertight in this book, because there is one body, and one Spirit, and one Lord, and one faith, and one baptism. And I know several erroneous cults who talk about three or four different spirits. Well, I'm afraid you'll have to come back to the book and find there's just one Spirit.

And sometimes when we find a whole lot of descriptive titles, we're up to get muddled up and wonder, is this all the one person? Let me illustrate this to you. You know, in this province of ours, many, many years ago, we had a great character known to all in Sunday as Edward Carson. KC, that's what he was called in those early days.

He was a king's counselor, and probably the most able king's counselor in the British Isles at that time, in every court in the land, both here and in England and Scotland, they were afraid of him. He was a master of language. But then you see, he became a member of Parliament, and he represented the constituency of Dunkirk in the Imperial Parliament, and he was then known as Sir Edward Carson, MV.

It's the same fellow, of course. Edward Carson KC, and Sir Edward Carson MV. He was the man who established the mighty phrase, for us, sir, no surrender.

And it's sort of echoing back yet, you know. In the days when I met him, and I did meet him, and spoke to him on one occasion, he was then Lord Carson. Yes, old grey-haired wizard of a man when I was a young boy, and at Stormont once, I just had a word or two with him, but he was Lord Carson then.

But it's the same character. And when they brought his remains to Belfast many years ago, out of my love and respect for him, I went to the funeral, and there was just one word on the coffin. It was Carson.

Now from the very first sigh he gave, to the very last sigh he gave, he was always Carson. But the different titles bring the man before us, in the different ways that he worked for the community, and the different abilities he had. And it's the same with the eternal spirit.

Yea, we get his titles in this book, but it's always the same eternal spirit. There is just one spirit. Let me sort of show you that it's just the one person, and make you sure.

We're at 1 Corinthians chapter 12. 1 Corinthians, and we're at chapter 12, and we're reading at verse 1. Paul writing to these saints at Corinth said, Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led.

Wherefore I give you to understand that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus a cursed. No man speaking by the Spirit of God, do you see the title there? Spirit of God, calleth Jesus a cursed. And that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.

And you must see that the Spirit of God and the Holy Ghost, just titles of the same person here. I think you can see that quite clearly. Not two different persons, you know.

You can see that Paul's just using the phraseology that the Spirit intends him to use. And these titles come forth. Have a look at the Acts of the Apostles again, just to establish this.

The Acts of the Apostles chapter 5. This is the portion we used last week, just to prove that he is a person. Verse 1, But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, 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, pretending that they were doing this thing truly. But Peter said to Ananias, Why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost? Now don't bother about the word lie now, you know that they were telling lies, and you can only tell lies to a person.

Just look at the phrase that's used, the title. Why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost? Then he says in verse 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. That's what we took to prove, that the Holy Ghost is God.

And I don't think there's any bother with that, but that's not what I'm after just now. You see, verse 7, And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not knowing what was done, came in. And Peter answered unto her, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? And she said, Yea, for so much.

Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt, get the title now, the Spirit of the Lord? Don't you see that the Holy Ghost and the Spirit of the Lord are two titles given to the one person? I

don't think you'll get mixed up in that. I hear them trying to make a new person out of almost every title. Now, why have all these titles? Well, it's just like the names of God in this book.

We have God, that's the name that God takes. It's the old Hebrew word Elohim. And then we have the Lord God, that's another name he takes.

And then we have the Lord. And I could go on until I outline at least nine different distinct names for God. And they're not thrown across the page of Scripture the way a farmer sows a seed.

No, they're divinely produced, unplaced, unpreserved by a divine person for a divine purpose, to reveal God. All the wonder of God is power, is grace, is love, is mercy. Now, it's just the same with the titles given to the Holy Spirit, or the Eternal Spirit as I would rather use it.

Because as we follow them this evening, you'll find that they're used in a certain way, and certain truths will come out. Let's look at this that I have placed first, the Spirit of God. Let's go back to Matthew chapter 24.

Matthew chapter 24, this is the very chapter. Matthew chapter 12, it is. Matthew chapter 12, and it's verse 22.

Matthew chapter 12, verse 22. This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub, the prince of the devils. And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand.

If Satan cast out Sidney's divided against himself, how shall then his kingdom stand? And if I, by Beelzebub, cast out devils, by whom do your children cast them out? Therefore they shall be your judges. But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, that's the title our Lord Jesus used. You see, I think that this is very divinely placed.

It's not the Holy Spirit, not any of these other titles that's here, not the Spirit of promise or the Spirit of truth. It's the Spirit of God. And every time I find it in the New Testament, I find some sort of sovereignty connected with it.

The Spirit of God is absolutely sovereign over all the works of the devil. Let's get that quite clear now. Because that's most important, just to get the hold of that.

Absolutely sovereign. And when our Lord Jesus Christ was here as the servant of Jehovah, when he met the enemy, with all his fury, he was depending on the Spirit of God. If I, by the Spirit of God, cast them out.

So that you can see the sovereignty there. Let me go back to Matthew chapter 3 for a moment. I think you know this, don't you? In this third chapter, our Lord Jesus is being baptized by John down at the Jordan.

Verse 16, Matthew 3 verse 16. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water. And lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God, there it is again, descending like a dove and lighting upon him.

And lo, a voice from heaven saying, this is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased. You see, we must never forget that we're in Matthew's gospel here before Pentecost. We're still in the old economy.

We're still in the age of law. We're still where Christ was under the law. Don't let's forget that.

You know, under the law in the old economy, the Holy Spirit, or the Spirit of God if you want to keep as it should be, the Spirit of God would come upon whom he will, for what he would, and when he will. You see, one man stopped me once, and he's a fellow who takes a different view from me about things like this. And he said, I'm puzzled about John the Baptist.

Are you now? What's puzzling you about John the Baptist? He says he was filled with the Holy Ghost from his mother's womb. I said, that's right. That's going to bother you with your second blessing teaching.

He says, it is bothering me. Well, I said, you see, John the Baptist was living in the old economy. And in the old economy, the Spirit of God could come upon whom he would, and when he would, and where he would.

And he came upon him before he was even born. Yes, when Mary came in to tell Elizabeth that she was about to be the mother of the Messiah, the babe jumped in her womb. Then an old fellow was quick, he said, sure babies move in wombs.

Oh, I said, I didn't quote it properly because I knew you were there. The babe jumped in her womb for John. Yes, that's what it was.

It was the Holy Ghost. He's sovereign. He can come upon whom he would, and when he would, and where he would.

Can you see the sovereignty there? Let's have a look at Romans chapter 8. Because this phrase is worth working out, I can't work them all out for you, you know that. But I think that you can get enough out of these that will make you go on and think deeply about this. Romans 8, Paul writing to the saints at Rome said in verse 6, for to be carnally minded is death.

But to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God. For it is not subject to the law of God.

He's a mighty phrase, neither indeed can be. And you want to learn this off the way the kids learn things at school. Neither indeed can be, neither indeed can be, neither indeed can be, neither indeed can be.

And you'll never bring the old man. To be subject to the will of God. The carnal mind is enmity with God, and is not subject to the law of God.

Neither indeed can be. Just get it in, no matter what hoop you put him through, or what spiritual gymnastics you try on him. These fellows who try to tell me that they've become sinlessly perfect.

I don't know how they get this thing fixed out here. Neither indeed can be. Oh no, the carnal mind, the old man, the old nature, the old sinful nature.

It is not subject to the law of God. Neither indeed can be. Then I want you to see this.

So he concludes, because of this mighty truth, verse 8. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. That is perfectly true. But he looks at them again, because they're born again.

He says, but ye are not in the flesh, but in the spirit. If so be that the spirit of God, that's the phrase we're after. Dwell in you.

Now if any man have not the spirit of Christ, and that's the changeover of the descriptive title again. But we'll come to that in a moment, but it's the same person, you can see that. Now if any man have not the spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

You see, the spirit is sovereign. That the moment any young believer, the moment a person comes and trusts Christ, he comes to indwell. He's sovereign.

He doesn't ask permission, he just comes and dwells. And if he's not there, you don't even belong to Christ. So you better make up your mind about what side you're on.

All that I'm taking the phrase the spirit of God for in these, you can see that he's sovereign over all the works of the devil. You can see that in the dispensation of law he came upon whom he would and where he would. You can see that he's sovereign and he indwells every belief.

You know, about 25 years ago, just before I came here, in the other church we had, one Sunday morning, one Sunday evening, a mother brought her two children in. They were lovely little twins. They were five years of age.

And she said to me, Mr. Mullen, they won't go home from the meeting tonight, they want to be saved. Now this is always something that burdens me to this day. Now I said, now listen, you sit out there and I'll take them in with me and we'll talk together.

And I thought the best way to deal with these kids was I would sit on the floor and I talked to the two of them. And after I'd talked for quite a while, I was in no hurry about this, I came to the conclusion that the spirit of God was dealing with the children. And I knew my whereabouts then, that the spirit of God was sort of separating them out from all the rest of the kids, and that's called sanctification of the spirit, and what these children needed now was belief of the truth and they would be saved.

And when I'd got the groundwork properly prepared, that it wasn't any emotional thing or anybody interfering, then I let them see the truth. And then these two little things left with me, and they were saved. Well, they're thirty years of age tonight or thereabouts, and they remember the night they were saved.

And I'll tell you this, the moment those two tiny little things closed their eyes and called upon the Lord, the Holy Spirit entered, and they were born of God. And He saw them! And if He's not there, you don't belong to the Lord. He's sovereign.

Let's get that established now. That's what that wonderful descriptive title is all about. Have a look at this other one.

It's the Spirit of the Living God. Let's go to 2 Corinthians, and we're at the third chapter. 2 Corinthians, and at chapter 3. And this is a very interesting one, because this is a different title altogether, but for the same person, the Eternal Spirit.

And Paul, writing to these Corinthians, said, Do we begin again to commend ourselves? You see, I think you remember that Paul walked into Corinth one morning, into this mighty city of Corinth. It was the metropolis of the world in those days. And Paul tells us that he came to this mighty city in fear and trembling.

But determined to know nothing among them save Christ and Him crucified. He came to this big city with all its riches and yet with all its darkness and sin. And he knew that this was the answer to its need, Christ and Him crucified.

And there were so many people saved through the preaching of the gospel by Paul just at that time, that the church of Corinth was formed. Because, you know, it's like everywhere else where God blesses, you always get one or two critics in somewhere, and you know their things to say about Paul. Some said that his speech was contemptible.

No, these were the uppers. They wanted this academic Oxfordism is what I call it. And if they didn't get it, they wanted rid of the man.

And then others said his bodily presence is weak. He was a small man, you know. And don't ever belittle small men, I can tell you.

Because I think the greatest man that Paul ever had, that God ever had in this age was Paul. And he just turns on them and he says, do we begin again to commend ourselves? We've got to commend ourselves to you, we started this thing. We laid the foundations for you.

Do we need to commend ourselves? Or need we, as some others, epistles of commendation to you, or letters of commendation from you? Oh, we get a lot of these letters of commendation going round. Some of the type boys wouldn't let the Lord in unless he had a letter. Oh, you know, there were some folks from the central hall in Bangor, type brother-in-law.

Got this now quite clear what I meant, don't you? They went to Portrush for the holidays. And the old elder who's there, who's a man of God, of long standing. He goes up, you know, and a little fellow stops him at the door and says, who are you now? So he tells them, tells them right from the start, you've got a letter with you, commendation.

Now, get up. Puts them up, so he comes down the road broken hearted, he's gone to remember his Lord. So two of the young girls coming from the same assembly from Bangor stop him.

He says, are you not going to the meeting? He says, and won't let me in, I've no letter. He says, we have no letter, but you're one of our elders, you write us a letter. So he stands and writes the letter on the street.

So they take it up to the door and they say there's our letter. So they get in with the letter of the boy they put out. Now what sort of business is this? My God, where are we coming to? You're running a circus or what? You know, they were almost asking Paul for a letter of commendation.

The man who had risked his life to bring the gospel to them when they sat in darkness. He said, ye are our epistle. This is how he answers it.

Ye are our epistle written in our hearts. You know, the whole story is written in my heart. Oh, I have seen this in my life, you know.

I have seen missions where scores and scores and scores of people have been saved. I remember a mission where 78 were saved. And in the next week or two they were baptized and brought into the meeting.

And now they're so tight they won't let me in. Yeah, it does sicken you, doesn't it? My God, what sort of Christianity do we get sometimes? Yes, they've got a brand of the rope. And the whole story of their conversion when the Holy Ghost came, when they were convicted, when they were converted, it's in my heart still.

Yeah, he says to them, ye are our epistle written in our hearts. Known and read of all men. The whole countryside knew about it.

For as much as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, everybody knows you belong to Christ. And everybody knows we were chosen to do the job. Written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the Living God.

There's the phrase. Do you see this? You know, friends, it's the Spirit of the Living God taking poor lost sinners and bringing them through some poor vessel to a knowledge of Christ and then Christ begins to shine out. That everybody knows.

He makes Christ real in lives that are given over to him. Do you see this? Can you see the sovereignty when we use the phrase, the Spirit of God? Can you see the reality when we use the Spirit of the Living God? Let's bypass one here, we'll get it once again. Let's look at that holy spiritual promise.

Let's go to Ephesians, and we're at the first chapter. Galatians, then Ephesians. And we're at chapter one.

Oh, what writing is here. Paul is bringing things before these saints that must astir them. He's saying about Christ all the things that happen when you come to Christ.

And he's talking about themselves, the preachers that came to Ephesus. He says, verse 12, that we should be to the praise of his glory who first trusted in Christ. This is talking about the preachers.

And then he turns to the crowd that got saved. In whom ye also trust. Get the we and the ye here and you'll get it all right.

He's talking about them now. In whom ye also trusted. After that you had the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

You see, I'm fully persuaded about this. That if we're sent to preach, then we must be preaching the truth. The word of truth.

The message of truth. I think the word word there is an old Greek word that means message. It's the message of truth.

The gospel of your salvation. You know, I know from a long experience. That if we miss this in gospel preaching.

And we don't get the word of truth of the gospel over. Then I don't think people are going to get saved at all. I don't think just punching in the time.

You know, on a Sunday evening or telling stories or getting out of it somewhere. It's just going to make them weak. We happen to be sent to preach Christ.

We're sent to preach the cross. We're sent to preach the glorious gospel. And so he's reminding them.

He says, in whom ye also trusted. After that you had the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Because the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

Is always holding up a person that you can trust. In whom ye also trusted. Must get round to that.

We're that who Christ died for our sins. And was buried and rose again. We're preaching Christ and him crucified.

He says, in whom ye also trusted. After that you had the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. In whom also, after that you believed.

Ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise. There's another title of the eternal spirit. It's called the Holy Spirit of promise.

And you know there's certainty related to this. You know this makes us absolutely sure. Of the inheritance that lies ahead.

This is the earnest of our inheritance. The earnest is a great word. Doctor Ironside once described this.

Very ably like this. He said, I can see a farmer going down to the market. And he's looking round the sheep.

And here's a crowd that he wants. And he buys them. And then he marks them with his mark.

And then he gets them up from the crowd. And puts them up into his big lorry. But up in the big lorry.

There are several bunches of nice fresh grass. That he has brought from his meadows. They've never tasted anything like this.

But this is just the earnest of their inheritance. There are acres and acres of that grass where they're going. And when you get saved.

The Holy Spirit enters. But that's the spirit of promise. That's making you sure and certain.

There's an unfold in the head. And when we land where he wants us to be. Then there'll be no more tales.

And no more death. No more sorrow. No more rebels.

What an inheritance. Don't you see how these wonderful titles are placed through here? You see, when we talk about the spirit of God. We're talking about the sovereignty.

That belongs to him. When we talk about the spirit of the living God. We're talking about the reality.

When we talk about the Holy Spirit of promise. We're talking about the certainty that's ours. Let's go to John 16 just for a moment.

Because I think we must do that one. John's Gospel. Chapter 16.

Our Lord Jesus is talking to them about the comforter coming. And he says in verse 13. How be it when he, the spirit of truth.

Now, there's another title for you. That's different again. When he, the spirit of truth is come.

He will guide you into all truth. Oh, I think we need to really see this in all this glorious reality. You see, I know there's a lot of preachers here.

And you must know this. That when you're preparing messages. And you go down the passage.

And you come to some phrase or phrases or verse. Or two or three verses. Well, you just can't get the hang of it.

It's not clear to you. I've been there a thousand times. And then you see I have about a thousand books.

And then I look along the shelf. And I think that Hank will do something to help this. Or I think that Ironside.

Or I think that Shaper. Or I think that somebody else. And I may go through twenty of them.

And they seem to be just stuck where I'm stuck. Because they're not saying a thing about the tight bit. They pass it by.

And it makes a great lot of these commentaries worth about two days. And I have learned now the books are all dusty on the shelf. You see, he belongs to the brethren.

And he doesn't believe in this game of going to these books. So he's saying amen. He's quite right, of course.

So what you do, you learn. That the spirit of truth is coming. And that he indwells me.

So you put the book on the floor now. And you get down on your knees beside the book. And you talk to the Lord.

And you wait on the Lord. And I'll tell you this. You'll get the truth.

Get the truth. Gentleman in the meeting now has said to me on more than one occasion. You've got a secret book somewhere with all this news in it.

No, I haven't. No, I know the spirit of truth has come. And I know that he has come for a purpose.

To guide us into all truth. And it's a great lesson to learn. That you're no use.

And you get stuck. And it is not your brains or your ability. You just get down shipwrecked, as it were.

And you confess, Lord, I just can't do it. And I can't see it. And I can't get through with it.

Blessed Holy Spirit of truth. I'm coming to thee and you'll have to help me. And how often.

It has just all opened up, you know. And when you have prayed in this state of mind. And it opens up.

You realize that you're no use. And that the Holy Ghost is helping you. And it's a great thing.

It's a great thing to know that the Holy Spirit of God. You see, he's responsible for this. Did you see this? Are you following this properly? You see, when this phrase, the Spirit of God, is used in the New Testament.

You can see the sovereignty. And when the Spirit of the Living God is used. You can see the reality that he can bring to every believer.

When you see the Holy Spirit of promise. You can see the certainty that comes. When you talk about the Spirit of truth.

Then you can see the responsibility that is. Let's go to the Holy Spirit. Because I think you'll find this title more often in the New Testament.

Than any other title belonging to the Eternal Spirit. The Holy Spirit. You can see I'm baffling for time.

Whether I like it or not. But I'd like to put Russia's ahead of me. And I see it all the time.

Nevertheless, let's do this properly. Let's go to Ephesians. And we're at chapter 4. Ephesians chapter 4. And this is something I think that we must get the hold of.

More than any other thing this evening. Because when we talk about holy. We're talking about something that's pure.

Purity is attached to you. The thought is purity. And Paul writing to these Ephesians said.

After a lot of things in verse 30 of chapter 4 he said. You see once the Spirit of God enters. The earnest of your inheritance.

Then you're sealed. And we'll come to that one night and deal with it properly. And you're sealed on to the day of redemption.

There's no lost again about this thing. Not on your life there's not. But the Holy Spirit who is sovereign.

And comes to indwell even the youngest believer when he believes. You know he does want to help us so much. But we can grieve him.

You'll find that the verse 30 begins with and. And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God. And that and is the conjunction they tell me.

And that joins this phrase to all that goes before. See verse 25 let's read it like this. Wherefore putting away lying.

And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God. You see I can tell you that all truthfulness. Will grieve the Spirit of God.

Or you can lie in so many ways. You can lie at your work you know. You can promise your employer.

To work from 8 in the morning to 5 in the evening. And only do 4 hours of it. And you're telling lies you know.

You're telling him lies. And you can lie in the prayer meeting. You can stand up and you can pretend to pray to God.

When all the time you're only talking to men. And it's a lie. Or you can tell so many lies.

And every lie you tell. You grieve. The Holy Spirit he's holy you know.

He knows better than I do. He knows all that we think. Yes you see all truthfulness can grieve the Spirit of God.

See verse 26. Be ye angry and sin not. Let not the sun go down upon your life.

You see ungraciousness. Will grieve the Spirit of God. You know every man and wife has a bit of a tiff now and again.

Some of the tiffs are bigger than others. Didn't I tell you what Nicholson said? Is there a man here that hasn't had a row with the wife? A wee man stood up and put his hand up. Nicholson said sit down you wee hypocrite you.

Oh we've all done it. And I'll tell you the sooner you learn to stop going about in the huff. You know what that means.

You see some of them laughing. They must have done this thing. Going about you know.

Not speaking now. Yes. Well the sooner you learn to chuck that up and go and tell her.

Because it's usually your fault. Thank you Jim. Thank you for laughing yes.

Yes it's usually. Sometimes I have to go down into the discovery and say look dear. I'm all wrong.

Sorry. There are times when you can be righteously cross and angry you know. Even God gets angry.

God said to Israel thou hast provoked me unto anger. Well you don't need to sin about it. Be ye angry and sin not.

And don't keep it up for a week. Let not the sun go down upon your house. Let's get it fixed tonight as it were.

Because if there's this ungraciousness in you and you're going to go on bullheaded at this. You're going to grieve the Holy Spirit. Doesn't like it.

You're doing no good. You needn't read this book. You're going to get nothing out of it.

You see he's the Holy Spirit. And untruthfulness and ungraciousness. See verse 27 there.

It says never give place to the devil. You know what that is. That's unfaithfulness if you do it.

You know you can stand in the company and somebody tears the Lord to pieces and you're a coward. Oh don't ever be branded like that. Don't be yellow now.

You stand up for the law. Don't give place to the devil. You have to stand up and talk at times.

Don't be afraid you know. Because I'll tell you this if you creep into a hole and try to be a nice fellow. Pastor Orr used to talk about this damnable respectability of ours.

And I'll tell you he was right. Oh we have to be so nice to everybody. You let the devil do whatever he likes.

Oh where does warfare come in at all. What about fighting the good fight. You know nothing about it.

You creep out of every battle that started. I'll tell you this. When you do you grieve the Holy Spirit.

Grieving. Because I'll tell you that untruthfulness and ungraciousness and unfaithfulness. See this bit.

Verse 28. Let him that stole. Steal no more.

So what's Paul doing writing to these Ephesians like this. These men are saved. You say people don't steal anything.

Do they not? I'm afraid they do. Yeah I can tell you a whole lot of things. Steal.

And when you do. Even in the least little way. You know I knew a raven.

Not a raven factory. A spinning mill. And the old spinning master you know.

And in those days I'm not sure about it now. The spinners were all on their bare feet. And you know there was one girl who was an outstanding Christian among them.

And one day she just took a couple of bobbins they called them. A fray. Put them in her blouse.

And she was walking out. When God talked to her. And she turned back and came to the spinning master and said you know.

Tempted to steal them. He says I think that's the biggest thing you've ever done for the Lord. Because I saw you stealing them.

And if you'd have walked out Mary. I would never have had any more faith in Christianity. But I have now.

Now don't steal some little thing and give the enemy a chance. You see your unrighteousness will grieve the Holy Ghost. See this one.

Verse 29. Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth. You know what Paul's talking about do you? Blue jokes.

That's what they call them. Corrupt that's what it is. Dr. Ives had told me this himself.

He was giving the Bible readings at Keswick. And you know they were all round him. He was a great big soul.

You could have loved him easily. And after he'd given the Bible readings they were all crowded round. And a little man came in and said.

Are there any ladies here who want to tell you a thing? The old doctor said there are no ladies here. But the Holy Ghost is here. If he can listen you're okay.

The wee man backed out. See these supposed to be clever blue jokes. I'll tell you what you're doing.

You're grieving the Holy Ghost. And your TV screen is clobbered with it isn't it? Oh you can see this. I don't need to batter all this out.

I think you can work it out now on your own. You can see that these titles. They're not just scattered on the page you know.

Yeah it's one spirit. It's the third person of the Trinity. Now next week when we come.

To look at these symbols of the spirit. Then we'll be well on our way to the study. We're only starting.

We've only got the personality. And the deity. And the titles.

We need to get the symbols. And then we'll go on. And do this thing.

I will not take time to sing anymore. I need to get the coat on. And get the car out.

And on my way to Portrush. You need to pray for me. Let's bow together before the Lord.

Dear Lord we bow in thy presence. We thank thee first of all for this book. We thank thee for the many things that are in the book.

That we seem to walk past all the time. We thank thee for the truth and the teachings. Lord we pray that thou wilt help us.

To realize that thou art the spirit of truth. And that thou wilt help us. You're responsible to guide us into all truth.

Help us ever to remember that thou art the Holy Spirit. O Lord make us stand in awe of thee. Help us to remember that thou art the spirit of promise.

Lord you'll land us whole. Come what may or what must. Bless the class.

Gather us together. Give us mercies on the way to Portrush. And grant that thy great name in us.

Will be glorified for thine.

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