

The Holy Spirit of God, by Gabrielle Wright

When we talk about the Holy Spirit, do we know who we are talking about?

The Confession of Faith of the Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa tells us the following about the Holy Spirit:

“The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God and is one with God like a human spirit is one with a human being.

The Holy Spirit is the living, creative, personal and immediate presence and power of the transcendent God that extends into the world and is at work in the world and in us.

The Holy Spirit is thus fully God in basic contrast to every other existing or supposed spirit, whether ancestral or supernatural.

The Holy Spirit is likewise the Spirit of Christ, his living presence and power. Through Christ God poured out the Spirit at Pentecost.”

The Holy Spirit is one of the three persons of the Trinity. Not God the Father, Jesus or the Holy Spirit exist as individual or separate entities, they are all one God, and they are *all fully God*.

Even though during Pentecost we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to live in and with us in a very personal way, it is also important that we remember that the Holy Spirit is eternal, having neither beginning nor end, and is part of every act of God and Jesus.

In Genesis 1:2 we read that before anything was created, the Spirit of God was there.

In Matthew 1:18 the Holy Spirit is a vital part of the entry of Jesus into the world as a man.

In Hebrews 9:14 we also read of the Holy Spirit as the eternal spirit being part of the gospel story of Jesus human life, death and His resurrection and ascension.

In Ephesians 4 we read that when Jesus ascended the Holy Spirit enabled believers to work together, each doing certain things to build up the body of Christ, and we are urged to “Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit”.

In Hebrews 3:7-11 the Holy Spirit declares His anger at unbelief and the hardening of hearts towards God.

In Revelation 22:17 the Spirit is active in inviting everyone to enjoy eternal life.

The Holy Spirit of God is living and active and, being God, is all powerful, all knowing, and everywhere at all times.

Let us never underestimate the Holy Spirit.

Let us never limit our thoughts of Him to the time between Pentecost and the second coming of Christ.

Let us always worship Him, revere Him and honour Him as we should.