

Offenses Against the Holy Ghost

To understand the offenses of the Holy Ghost, we first need to understand who the Spirit is and what is the working of the Spirit in the church and in our lives. As we understand that there is one God (Deuteronomy 6:4) manifested in different offices, we see that He is the creator of heaven and earth, and of all living beings. He has revealed Himself to humanity as the Father (Creator), in the son (Savior), and as the Holy Ghost (indwelling Spirit). The Holy Spirit is the operation of God where He fills us for very special purposes. We will be looking into the reasons why God does this.

Some Reasons Why God Fills Us with His Spirit

By the Spirit we are born into the kingdom of God. (John 3:5) *Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.*

The Spirit leads us to repentance. (John 16:8) *And when he (the Holy Spirit) is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.*

The Spirit brings godliness to us. (Romans 14:17) *For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.*

The Spirit leads us into all truth. (John 16:13) *Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.*

The Spirit baptizes and unites us into the body of Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:13) *For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.*

In Ephesians 6:11-18 we study about the armor of God. The seventh article is praying in the Spirit. (Ephesians 6:18) *Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.*

The Spirit also brings the rest and refreshing (Isaiah 28:11-12), gives us a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7), is our intercessor and way of access to God (Romans 8:26-27, Ephesians 2:18), and works in our lives to give us the Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23).

When the Spirit fills us, we are to allow the Spirit to lead us into righteousness and truth. Anything that is contrary to the operation of the Holy Spirit in our lives is an offense to the Spirit.

Offenses Against the Spirit

The Word of God tells us that we are not to grieve or quench the Spirit. (Ephesians 4:30) *And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.*
(1 Thessalonians 5:19) *Quench not the Spirit.*

To quench is to put out, as of fire, flames, or light. To extinguish at once. Grieve is to be sorrowful through loss, or to cause one to feel sorrow. Grieving the Holy Ghost is anything that is in violation to the working of the Holy Ghost, or to stop the moving of the Spirit when the Spirit wants to lead and guide into truth and righteousness. We are baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire, and we must not quench the

fire of the Holy Ghost in us. In the Scriptures we see the different sins against the Spirit.

In Proverbs we see the things that God hates, because these things are not only against Him, but against His people. Discord is a great sin because discord brings division in the church and the working of the Spirit is to bring unity. (Proverbs 6:16-19) *These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: (17) A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, (18) An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, (19) A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.*

Tempting and lying to the Spirit. Ananias and Sapphira lied in the house of God to a man of God. Their purpose was to deceive. (Acts 5:3-4, 9) *But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? (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. (9) Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out.*

Vexing and rebelling against the Spirit. The working of the Spirit is to bring salvation. There are those who received the Holy Spirit in their lives but they still want to live in their sins, refusing to be delivered and set free from their sins. (Isaiah 63:10) *But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them.* Romans 6:1-2 tells us that we cannot stay in our sins.

Resisting the Spirit when He want to lead us. (Acts 7:51) *Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.*

Undervaluing the gifts of the Spirit. (Acts 8:19-20) *Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. (20) But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.*

Danger of trifling with the Holy Ghost. After we receive the knowledge of the power of the Spirit in our lives, then we reject it, we are walking away from the power and knowledge that once saved and delivered us. These people are walking back into darkness. (Hebrews 6:4-6) *For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, (5) And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, (6) If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.*

Insulting the Holy Spirit. This is when a person looks at the blood of the promise (the blood that made him holy) as no different from other people's blood, and he insults the Spirit that God gave us out of his kindness. He deserves a much worse punishment. (Hebrews 10:29) *Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?*

Disregarding the prophecies of the prophets. (Nehemiah 9:30) *Yet many years didst thou forbear them, and testifiedst against them by thy spirit in thy prophets: yet would they not give ear: therefore gavest thou them into the hand of the people of the*

lands.

Blasphemy against the Spirit, the unpardonable sin. (Matthew 12:31-32)
Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy *against* the *Holy* Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. (32) And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the *world* to come. (1 John 5:16) If any man see his brother sin a sin *which is* not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.

Once we have received the Holy Spirit, we are to walk in the light of the Word and Spirit. If continue to walk in darkness, then we are offending the Spirit. When the Spirit moves in the church, and we refuse what God is wanting to do, then we are quenching what the Spirit wants to do. Let us allow the Spirit to move in our lives to produce righteousness and truth. Let us allow the Spirit to move in our church to speak to us and lead us. Let us completely submit ourselves to the Spirit of God and all the He wants to do in our lives and in the church.

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