

Heidelberg Catechism

Part 2: Deliverance

Lord's Day 20

Question and Answer 53

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Question: 53

What do you believe concerning "the Holy Spirit"?

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Answer 53:

First, that the Spirit, with the Father and the Son, is eternal God.

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¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:18-20

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¹ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. ³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning--the first day.

Genesis 1:1-5

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³² All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had.

³³ With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all...³⁶ Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement), ³⁷ sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

Acts 4:32-33, 36-37

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¹ Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property.

² With his wife's full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet.

Acts 5:1-2

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³ Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land?"

⁴ Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to God."

Acts 5:3-4

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Answer 53:

Second, *that the Spirit is given also to me, so that, through true faith,* He makes me share in Christ and all His benefits, comforts me, and will remain with me forever.

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¹³ We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God. ¹⁶ And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.

1 John 4:13-16

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¹⁹ Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;
²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

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²¹ Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us,
²² set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

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⁴ But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law,
⁵ to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. ⁶ Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

Galatians 4:4-7

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Answer 53:

Second, that the Spirit is given also to me, so that, through true faith, *He makes me share in Christ and all His benefits*, comforts me, and will remain with me forever.

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¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written:

"Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."

¹⁴ He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

Galatians 3:13-14

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² I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard?

³ Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort? ⁴ Have you suffered so much for nothing--if it really was for nothing?

⁵ Does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you because you observe the law, or because you believe what you heard?

Galatians 3:2-5

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Answer 53:

Second, that the Spirit is given also to me, so that, through true faith, He makes me share in Christ and all His benefits, *comforts me*, and will remain with me forever.

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⁷ But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; ¹⁰ in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; ¹¹ and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. **John 16:7-11**

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³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. ⁵ For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows.

2 Corinthians 1:3-5

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Answer 53:

Second, that the Spirit is given also to me, so that, through true faith, He makes me share in Christ and all His benefits, comforts me, *and will remain with me forever.*

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¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever--
¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

John 14:16-17

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23 And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us.

24 Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

1 John 3:23-24