

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON INDWELLING

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. By the use of true and false questions and answers we hope to set forth more clearly the basic issues of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in summing up our series on indwelling.
2. Our plan is to state each idea or issue in simple form and raise the question concerning each one as to whether or not it is True or False. Then answer each one in harmony with what we have established that the Bible teaches on the subject of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in previous lessons taught in the series.

II. DISCUSSION

1. **The Holy Spirit is Deity. True/False.**

- a. Without a doubt, True.
- b. It is clearly taught in the N.T. that the Holy Spirit is deity (God, one of the Godhead three), Ac.5:3,4; Mt.12:28; Lk.11:20; Mt.28:19; 2Cor.13:14; Heb.9:14.

2. **The Holy Spirit is equal to the Father and the Son in attributes and identity as deity. True/False.**

- a. True.
- b. If the Holy Spirit is deity, one of the Godhead, and he is, then he must possess the attributes of deity; the whole of a thing is equal to the sum of its parts.

3. **The Apostles of Jesus Christ were personally indwelt with and/or by deity (that is, the very Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit himself personally dwelt in, inhabited, them). True/False.**

- a. False.
- b. If they were, they were equal to Jesus in essential nature. That is, they were both human and divine.
- c. They were filled with the effects, or the power, or the gift given by the power of the Holy Spirit, not with deity or the Holy Spirit himself.

4. **Ac.2:38 and Ac.5:32 teach that all persons obedient to the gospel received/receives the personal indwelling of the Holy Spirit. True/False.**
- False.
 - If the baptized believer receives the personal indwelling of the Holy Spirit himself, then he receives the personal presence of deity as an indwelling presence within him.
 - If they do, they would be equal to Jesus in essential nature. That is, they would be both human and divine.
5. **The Holy Spirit personally dwells within baptized believers to effect within them “moral oughtness” and “enlightened understanding” concerning the things of God. True/False.**
- False.
 - There is no evidence of such teaching as this in the Word of God, the Holy Spirit inspired Scripture; rather, it is a teaching of Calvinistic theology (i.e., the Calvinistic doctrine of Holy Spirit regeneration and sanctification).
 - The whole Calvinistic system of theology is false.
6. **Ac.2:38 teaches that those repenting and being baptized will receive the gift of deity (i.e., the Holy Spirit himself as a gift, the very Spirit of God himself as a gift). True/False.**
- False.
 - Because if the baptized believer receives the very gift of the Holy Spirit himself, then he receives the very gift of deity, in that the Holy Spirit is deity.
7. **If I am a Christian I have two spirits within me (my human spirit and the Spirit of God. True/False.**
- False.
 - The presence of two independent spirits dwelling within the same person creates a dual-personality dilemma.
8. **The Holy Spirit enters into and takes possession of the Christian in a similar sense as unclean or evil spirits entered into and took possession of people of the first century. True/False.**
- False.
 - If this were the case, God would usurp the free-will of man.

- 9. To be “personally indwelt with the Holy Spirit” is to be “personally indwelt with deity.”**
- True.
 - This is exactly what is implied by the personal indwelling position.
 - And if it is the case that man, the baptized believer, is personally indwelt with the Holy Spirit (deity), then he is, of necessity, equal in essential nature to Jesus Christ.
- 10. The personal indwelling of the Holy Spirit is essential to interpreting the prayers of the Christian before the throne of God and making intercession for the Christian. True/False.**
- False.
 - We raise the question here as to why one who either mediates or intercedes between two parties (either man or God) needs to be within (indwell) one of the parties in order to function as mediator or intercessor between the two?
 - Besides neither Rom.8:26,27 nor any other N.T. passage teaches that the Holy Spirit interprets the prayers of the Christian before the throne of God, or in any way acts as an intercessor or a mediator between man and God as some claim.
 - The Spirit referred to in Rom.8:26 is the human spirit, not the Holy Spirit.
- 11. The Holy Spirit personally and literally dwells within the Christian, but he leads man through, and only through, the written word of God. True/False.**
- False.
 - If this is the case, then what is the purpose of the indwelling?
 - There would be no purpose for the personal indwelling, and it would have God doing something inexplicable and senseless, in that it is purposeless.
 - There is no Scriptural evidence that God ever has, ever does, or ever will do anything without reason or purpose!
- 12. I am a human being in whom personally dwells deity; that is, the personal indwelling of the Holy Spirit, and, therefore, am equal to Jesus Christ in essential nature (i.e., a human being in whom personally dwells deity). True/False.**
- False.

- b. Because for one to affirm that this proposition is true, he is, as a consequence of his position, claiming to be equal in his essential nature to the One who was unique in all of human history (Jesus of Nazareth), in that he was both man (human) and was truly indwelt with deity (God).
- c. If one affirms this proposition to be true, a position which logically carries with it the essential consequence of claiming equality in essential nature to Jesus Christ, then upon what grounds does he believe Jesus Christ worthy of worship, and himself not worthy of the same?

Final Thoughts On The Questions And Answers On Indwelling Involving The Consequences Of The Answers Given.

1. If Q#1, “The Holy Spirit is deity” is true and Q.#4, “Ac.2:38 and 5:32 teach that all persons obedient to the gospel receive the personal indwelling of the Holy Spirit” is answered as True,
 - a. Then it follows by implication, from a combination of the two, that one is affirming that he/she is personally indwelt with deity (i.e., Q.#9, To be “personally indwelt with the Holy Spirit” is to be “personally indwelt with deity.”)
 - b. And if this is the case, then Q.#12 must be answered as true (i.e., “I am a human being in whom personally dwells deity, and am equal to Jesus Christ in essential nature.)
2. The fact that deity indwelling Jesus was effected through a miraculous conception (the incarnation) does not offset the problem for the one wishing to affirm that he/she has deity personally dwelling within him/her.
 - a. Regardless of the method by which one claims to receive deity as a personal indwelling presence (by miraculous conception or in the act of baptism), the effect is yet the same (i.e., he is a human being in whom resides the personal presence of deity – a personality of the Godhead).
 - b. If one wishes to believe that he has the personal presence of deity within him in the personality of the Holy Spirit (as they would answer “true” to Q.# 1,4,and 6), yet denies that he believes that he is claiming equality in essential nature to Jesus (Q.#12), he must explain how he has not involved himself in a

logical contradiction, in that answering “true” to Q.1,4,6, would necessitate answering Q #12 as true.

- c. If we answer Q#12 as false, we may not affirm Q# 3,4,6,7,8,10, and #11 as true; rather, they must, if we are to be consistent, be answered “false.”

III. CONCLUSION

1. How can one escape the force of the truth taught on the indwelling of deity, and/or the fallacy of the personal indwelling of the Holy Spirit, who is deity, in baptized believers, by means of these True/False questions with their Bible answers?
2. Surely, the final thoughts on the questions and answers on indwelling involving the consequences of the answers given further illustrate the truth taught herein.

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