



THE IRON ROD

Hold to the rod, the iron rod; 'Tis strong, and bright, and true.
The iron rod is the word of God; 'Twill safely guide us through.



March/April 2025

THE GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST

We learned that the Holy Ghost is a member of the Godhead, and that he is "a personage of spirit". He does not have a body of flesh and bones. His influence can be everywhere at once. His mission is to bear witness of the Father and the Son and of all truth. Furthermore, the Holy Ghost purifies, or sanctifies, us to prepare us to dwell in the presence of God. The Holy Ghost purifies our hearts so we no longer have the desire to do evil.

All honest seekers of the truth can feel the influence of the Holy Ghost, leading them to Jesus Christ and His gospel. However, the fulness of the blessings given through the Holy Ghost are available only to those who receive the gift of the Holy Ghost and remain worthy.

After a person is baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, one or more Melchizedek Priesthood holders lay their hands on the person's head and, in a sacred priesthood ordinance, confirm him or her a member of the Church. As part of this ordinance, called confirmation, the person is given the gift of the Holy Ghost.

The gift of the Holy Ghost is different from the influence of the Holy Ghost. Before baptism, a person can feel the influence of the Holy Ghost from time to time and through that influence can receive a testimony of the truth. After receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost, a person has the right to the constant companionship of that member of the Godhead if he or she keeps the commandments.

Jude quotes directly from 1 Enoch, a widely distributed work among the Old Testament Pseudepigrapha, citing a section of 1 Enoch 1:8 that is based on Deuteronomy 33:2.

The gift of the Holy Ghost is the privilege -- given to people who have placed their faith in Jesus Christ, been baptized, and been confirmed members of the Church -- to receive continual guidance and inspiration from the Holy Ghost.

A person may be temporarily guided by the Holy Ghost without receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost. However, this guidance will not be continuous unless the person is baptized and receives the laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost. We read in Acts 10 that the Roman soldier Cornelius received inspiration from the Holy Ghost so that he knew the gospel of Jesus Christ was true. But Cornelius did not receive the gift of the Holy Ghost until after he was baptized. The Prophet Joseph Smith taught that if Cornelius had not received baptism and the gift of the Holy Ghost, the Holy Ghost would have left him (see *Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Joseph Smith, 97*).

The Holy Ghost usually communicates with us quietly. His influence is often referred to as a "still small voice" (see 1 Kings 19:9-12). "The Holy Ghost speaks with a voice that you *feel* more than you *hear* ... While we speak of 'listening' to the whisperings of the Spirit, most

often one describes a spiritual prompting by saying, 'I had a feeling ...'" (Boyd K. Packer) He continued: "This voice of the Spirit speaks gently prompting you what to do or what to say, or it may caution or warn you".

The gift of the Holy Ghost is one of God's greatest gifts to us. Through the Holy Ghost we may know that God lives, that Jesus is the Christ, and that His Church has been restored to the earth. We may have the promptings of the Holy Ghost to show us all the things we should do. The Holy Ghost sanctifies us to prepare us for God's presence. We may enjoy the gifts of the Spirit. This great gift from our Heavenly Father can also bring peace to our hearts and an understanding of the things of God (see 1 Corinthians 2:9-12).

Well, that's enough for this time around. I hope you enjoy this and the following discussions. I pray that they are helpful to you in your endeavors in studying the scriptures.

Before you speak...
T - is it True? H - is it Helpful? I - is it Inspiring?
N - is it Necessary? K - is it Kind?



It's what's on the inside not what's on the outside. Be gracious.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY CORNER

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. (Matthew 1:18)

NOTE: All verses quoted from the Bible are from the Authorized or King James Version (KJV). Other references are from the Book of Mormon, Doctrine & Covenants, and Pearl of Great Price. These books of Scripture are the Standard Works of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

For David himself said by the Holy Ghost, The Lord said to my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool. (Mark 12:36)

And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. (Luke 1:35)

(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.) (John 7:39)

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But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

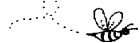
For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. (Romans 14:17)

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? (1 Corinthians 6:19)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen. (2 Corinthians 13:14)

For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. (1 Thessalonians 1:5)

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, (Hebrews 6:4)



Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into. (1 Peter 1:12)

But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, (Jude 1:20)

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God. (Revelation 2:7)

And I was led by the Spirit, not knowing beforehand the things which I should do. (1 Nephi 4:6)

*E*ternity; *A*tonement; *S*acrifice; *T*ruth; *E*xhilaration; *R*esurrection

BIBLE TRIVIA

1. What tribe was ambushed at Gibeah by the other tribes of Israel?
2. In the time of the judges, what did the Levite do when his concubine had been savagely abused by the men of Gibeah?
3. Who killed Amasa after holding his beard and kissing him?
4. What rebel killed Gedaliah, the governor of Judah after the fall of Judah to the Babylonians?
5. Where did Cain kill Abel?
6. What king was critically wounded by Philistine arrows?
7. Who slew a thousand men with the jawbone of an ass?
8. Who carried a staff that was as big as a weaver's beam?
9. Who pelted King David with stones while telling him what a violent king he was?
10. What king disguised himself in order to consult with a sorceress?

h.o.p.e. = hold on, pain ends

And their meetings were conducted by the church after the manner of the workings of the Spirit, and by the power of the Holy Ghost; for as the power of the Holy Ghost led them whether to preach, or to exhort, or to pray, or to supplicate, or to sing, even so it was done. (Moroni 6:9)

*Do not ask God what He can do for you,
but ask God what you can do for Him.*



HYMNS OF FAITH I NEED THEE EVERY HOUR Hymns 1985, #98

I need thee every hour, Most gracious Lord.
No tender voice like thine Can peace afford.
I need thee, oh, I need thee; Every hour I need thee!
Oh, bless me now, my Savior; I come to thee!

I need thee every hour; Stay thou nearby.
Temptations lose their pow'r When thou art nigh.
I need thee, oh, I need thee; Every hour I need thee!
Oh, bless me now, my Savior; I come to thee!

I need thee every hour, In joy or pain.
Come quickly and abide, Or life is vain.
I need thee, oh, I need thee; Every hour I need thee!
Oh, bless me now, my Savior; I come to thee!



I need thee every hour, Most holy One.
Oh, make me thine indeed, Thou blessed Son!
I need thee, oh, I need thee; Every hour I need thee!
Oh, bless me now, my Savior; I come to thee!

Questions About the Bible

1. What did the Lord say when he appeared to Solomon in a dream? (1 Kings 3)
2. What did Solomon desire?
3. What did the Lord do for Solomon? Why?
4. What was required of Solomon for him to have a long life?
5. How did Solomon determine who was the mother of the living child?
6. Who "brought presents, and served Solomon all the days of his life"? (1 Kings 4:21; see also Map 8)
7. What had God given to Solomon?
8. Why did the "kings of the earth" visit Solomon (V. 34)?
9. Who sent his servants to Solomon? (1 Kings 5)
10. What could David not do?

Questions are taken from *A Reading Guide to the Old Testament* by David H. Mulholland, published by Deseret Book Company, 1989

BIBLE - Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth

100 WAYS TO STUDY SCRIPTURE

26. Study Zion With Me
27. Gospel Commentaries
28. It's My Study Journal
29. Find a New Way to study
30. The Family P Proclamation