

The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Explanation

On several occasions and in many ways, the New Testament teaches clearly that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are three distinct beings who function with absolute unity of purpose as the Godhead. Chart 12-1 identifies key passages in the New Testament that describe in detail the divine greatness and the infinite atonement of Jesus Christ. This chart should be read in conjunction with chart 8-16, a listing of the divine names and titles of Jesus. Chart 12-2 collects references that focus on the attributes and activities of God the Father, especially noting his concerns, gifts, love, and relationships. Chart 12-3 gives attention to the Holy Ghost, perhaps the least understood member of the Godhead. His roles in the process of revelation, church leadership, spirituality, daily life, and eternal salvation are gathered and classified. These charts show how the members of the Godhead work closely together in their common cause of bringing to pass the immortality and eternal life of all the human family.

References

Bruce R. McConkie, *The Mortal Messiah* (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1979).
James E. Talmage, *Jesus the Christ* (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1984).
Stephen E. Robinson, "God the Father," *EM*, 2:548–50.
David H. Yarn Jr., "God," *EM*, 2:546–47.

The Holy Ghost

THE HOLY GHOST AND THE GODHEAD

The Holy Ghost comes from God (Jn 16:3; 1Th 4:8)
The Holy Ghost enables us to bear the presence of God (Mt 1:18, 20; Lk 1:35)
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost bear witness of each other (1Jn 5:6–7)
Access to the Father is obtained through Christ and the Holy Ghost (Eph 2:18, 22)

THE HOLY GHOST AND JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ had the company of the Holy Ghost during his ministry (Mt 3:16; Lk 4:14)
The Holy Ghost invites us to come unto Christ (Heb 3:7)
We are given the Holy Ghost through Jesus Christ (2Cor 5:5)
Christ's atonement was accomplished through the Holy Ghost (Heb 9:14)
Christ was resurrected through the Holy Ghost (1Pt 3:18)
Jesus' departure allowed for the Comforter to come and abide with the people (Jn 16:7)
Those who believe in Christ receive the Holy Ghost (Jn 7:39)
The gift of the Holy Ghost comes because of Christ (Acts 1:5)
The Holy Ghost witnesses of Christ (Acts 20:23; 1Cor 12:3–4; 1Jn 4:2)

THE HOLY GHOST AND REVELATION

Prophecy comes from the Holy Ghost (Lk 2:25–27; Acts 2:17–18)
The prophets speak through the power of the Holy Ghost (Mk 12:36; Acts 1:16)
Visions are received through the Holy Ghost (Acts 7:55)
The Holy Ghost helps men to speak the words of God (Jn 3:34)
The sword of the Spirit is the word of God (Eph 6:17–18)
The scriptures were written through the Holy Ghost (Rev 1:10; 14:13; 22:17)

THE HOLY GHOST AND CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Leaders of the church are appointed by authority and by the Holy Ghost (Acts 20:28)
Leaders of the church must have the company of the Holy Ghost (Lk 1:15; Acts 6:3)
We sustain our leaders for the sake of the Holy Ghost (Rom 15:30)
The doctrine of the church is received through the Holy Ghost (Acts 1:2; 15:28)

THE HOLY GHOST AND MISSIONARIES

Missionaries must be sent forth by the Holy Ghost (Acts 13:2, 4)
Missionaries prove themselves to be from God by having the Holy Ghost (2Cor 6:6)
Missionaries testify of Christ through the power of the Holy Ghost (Acts 1:8)
The Holy Ghost protects missionaries [and others who are faithful] (Acts 8:39)

REQUIREMENTS TO RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST

The Holy Ghost must be received from one who has the authority to bestow it (Acts 8:15–19)
Obedience is necessary in order to have the Holy Ghost (Acts 5:32)
Faith is required in order to have the company of the Holy Ghost (Gal 3:14)
The gift of the Holy Ghost is received by the laying on of hands by those with authority (Acts 19:6)

GIFTS AND POWERS OF THE HOLY GHOST

The Holy Ghost gives the gifts of the Spirit (1Cor 12:7–13; Heb 2:4; Acts 2:4)

The Holy Ghost brings us peace and hope (Acts 13:52; Rom 15:13)

Miracles are worked through the power of the Holy Ghost (Mt 12:28; Rev 11:11)

BAPTISM AND THE HOLY GHOST

Baptism should be performed in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost (Mt 28:19)

Baptism is required to receive the gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:38)

Jesus baptizes with the Holy Ghost (Jn 1:32–33)

The baptism of the Spirit is required to enter the kingdom of God (Jn 3:5–8; Acts 19:2)

The Holy Ghost baptizes the Saints with fire (Acts 11:15–16)

THE HOLY GHOST AND DAILY LIFE

The Holy Ghost changes our character (Gal 5:22–23)

The Holy Ghost will prompt us to do things (Acts 8:29; 11:12)

The Holy Ghost helps us with our weaknesses, especially in communicating with God (Rom 8:26–27)

The Holy Ghost witnesses of truth (Rom 9:1)

The Holy Ghost helps us to show proper judgment (Mt 12:18)

THE HOLY GHOST IN CONTRAST WITH WORLDLINESS

The wicked resist the Holy Ghost (Acts 5:39; 7:51; Heb 6:4)

Speaking against the Holy Ghost is unforgivable (Mt 12:31–32; Lk 12:10)

Walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit (Rom 8:1–5)

The flesh and the Spirit are in opposition (Gal 4:29; 5:16–18)

The things of the Spirit are more important than the things of the flesh (Rom 14:17)

The gift of the Holy Ghost far surpasses all other earthly gifts (Lk 11:13)

Spiritual things must be learned through the Holy Ghost (1Cor 2:10–14)

THE HOLY GHOST AND THE SAINTS

The Holy Ghost teaches men (Jn 14:26; Heb 9:8; 1Pet 1:11–12)

The Saints are converted through the Holy Ghost (1Th 1:5–6)

The Father sends the Holy Ghost to comfort men (Jn 14:16–17; Acts 9:31)

The Holy Ghost strengthens the Saints (Eph 3:16)

The Holy Ghost fills the Saints with the love of God (Rom 5:5)

The Saints are united through the Holy Ghost (Eph 4:3–4; Phil 2:1; Col 1:8)

The Holy Ghost dwells in men (1Cor 3:16; 6:19)

We each need a personal relationship with the Holy Ghost (2Cor 13:14)

The Holy Ghost is available to all (Acts 10:44–47; 15:8)

THE HOLY GHOST AND SALVATION

We are made perfect through the Holy Ghost (Gal 3:2–5; Titus 3:5)

We know that we are saved because we feel the Holy Ghost (2Cor 1:22; 1Jn 4:13)

The Holy Ghost tells us that our spirits are children of God (Rom 8:9–16)

Humans are cleansed and sanctified by the Holy Ghost (Rom 15:16; 1Cor 6:11; 2Th 2:13)

The Holy Ghost liberates us and changes us to a state of glory (2Cor 3:17–18)

The faithful are sealed for exaltation by the Holy Ghost (Eph 1:13)

The Saints are the firstfruits of the Spirit (Rom 8:23)