



Depiction of the Christian Holy Spirit as a dove, by Gian Lorenzo Bernini, in the apse of Saint Peter's Basilica

It is often said that the holy Spirit is “the third person of the Trinity”, the three-in-one Godhead. Can it be, however, that there can be a part of the holy Spirit, only “a portion” of the holy Spirit? Yes, this is exactly what the scriptures themselves indicate, as we will see from the following scriptures:

**“The LORD then came down in the cloud and spoke to him. Taking *some of the spirit* that was on Moses, he bestowed it on the seventy elders; and as the spirit came to rest on them, they prophesied but did not continue”—Numbers 11:25 NAB**

**“And it shall be after these things, I will *pour out of my spirit* on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy”—Joel 2:28 NETS**

**“Did he not make them one, with a *portion of the Spirit* in their union?”—Malachi 2:15 ESV**

**“For the one whom God sent speaks the words of God. He *does not ration his gift of the Spirit*”—John 3:34 NAB**

**“‘It will come to pass in the last days’, God says, ‘that I will pour out a *portion of my spirit* upon all flesh’”—Acts 2:17 NAB**

**“The blessing of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and *the participation in the***

***holy Spirit be with you all*—2 Corinthians 13:14 AAT**

***“Renewal in the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our Saviour”—Titus 3:6 NJB***

***“He has given us a share in his Spirit”—1 John 4:13 NJB***

The phraseology, “some of the spirit”, “a portion of”, “pour out of”, “his gift of”, “participation in”, “a share in”, all combine to indicate that the holy Spirit is not a person. Of course, it is true that the apostle Paul twice referred to himself figuratively as “being poured out like a drink offering” (Philippians 2:17 NIV; 2 Timothy 4:6 NIV), and the holy Spirit is, at times, personified in the Bible. However, the fact remains that the holy Spirit, is frequently referred to in terms which indicate it is not a person.

Yes, the scriptures prove that there is a part, or portion of, the holy Spirit which we can receive, indicating the holy Spirit is not a person.