

**Relationships and Differences
Holy Ghost and the Spirit
Outline – Mike Baird**

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The Holy Ghost

[\(see Holy Ghost – Outline\)](#)

Who he is

- 3rd Member of the Godhead
- Personage of Spirit (D&C 130:22)
- Referred to as "He" not "it" (John 14:26, John 15:26)
- One place at one time
- Holy Ghost and Light of Christ different
- Holy Ghost and gift of Holy Ghost different

Responsibilities and Functions

- Revelator
- Teacher
- Comforter
- Holy Spirit of Promise [\(see Holy Spirit of Promise – outline\)](#)
- Witness of Christ
- Witness to our spirit
- Guide to and witness of truth
- Prophecy
- Beareth record of Father & Son
- Sanctifier [\(See Justification & Sanctification – outline\)](#)

- Baptism of Fire

The Spirit (Light of Christ, Spirit of Christ)

[\(see \(The\) Spirit – Outline\)](#)

- Impersonal
- Emanates from God
- Is everywhere and in everything
- Law by which all things are governed
- Light of sun, stars, earth & power by which they are made
- Enlightens our minds
- Gives life to all things

Holy Ghost and the Spirit (Light of Christ) are different

- Joseph Fielding Smith:
"The Holy Ghost should not be confused with the Spirit which fills the immensity of space and which is everywhere present. This other Spirit is impersonal and has no size, nor dimension; it proceeds forth from the presence of the Father and the Son and is in all things. We should speak of the Holy Ghost as a personage as "he" and this other Spirit as "it," although when we speak of the power or gift of the Holy Ghost we may properly say "it." "
(Doctrines of Salvation, 1:49-50)

Holy Ghost uses the Light of Christ

- Joseph Fielding Smith:
"The person of the Holy Ghost can work through the Spirit of Christ that permeates everything, or he can work by personal contacts." (Doctrines of Salvation, 1: 54.)
- Bruce R McConkie:
" The light of Christ is neither the Holy Ghost nor the gift of the Holy Ghost; but that member of the Godhead, because he along with the Father and the Son is God, uses the light of Christ for his purposes." (A New Witness for the Articles of Faith, pg 258.)
- Joseph Fielding Smith:
" President Joseph F. Smith has expressed it thus: "The Holy Ghost as a personage of Spirit can no more be omnipresent in person than can the Father or the Son, but by his intelligence, his knowledge, his power and influence, over and through the laws of nature, he is and can be omnipresent throughout all the works of God." Thus when it becomes necessary to speak to us, he is

able to do so by acting through the other Spirit, that is, through the Light of Christ. " (Doctrines of Salvation, 1: 41.)

The Spirit is the agency of God's Power

- Bruce R McConkie:
"It is the agency of God's power; it is the means and way whereby "he comprehendeth all things," so that "all things are before him, and all things are round about him." It is the way whereby "he is above all things, and in all things, and is through all things, and is round about all things." Because of it, "all things are by him, and of him, even God, forever and ever." ("D&C 88:6-13, 41.)" (A New Witness for the Articles of Faith, pg 257-8.)
- John A Widstoe:
"This divine universe-filling medium, which holds all things together, places every soul born into the earth in communication with the members of the Godhead. Through it flow the truth and power that touch the intelligence and conscience of men." (Evidences and Reconciliations, Widstoe, John A. Pg 62)

Our access to the Spirit

- Obedience
 - D&C 121:37
"powers of heaven cannot be controlled nor handled only upon the principles of righteousness."
 - William Bradford:
"No one can have access to The Spirit unless he is obedient." (The Spirit)
- The Holy Ghost
 - Controls access to the Spirit
 - William Bradford:
"The Holy Ghost is that "Guard", to see that God's children, through obedience, can have access to the Spirit through the Holy Ghost. All access to The Spirit comes through the Holy Ghost - without him is nothing learned. If we are obedient to the laws which govern our access to and use of [The] Spirit, we may have it, if it is expedient in God's plan." (The Spirit)

Before Baptism

- Light of Christ is given to all men that they might know good from evil and leads all men to the truth (Moroni 7:16)

- Joseph Fielding Smith:
"if a man who has never heard the gospel will hearken to the teachings and manifestations of the Spirit of Christ, or the Light of Truth, which come to him, often spoken of as conscience ... it will lead him eventually to the fulness of the gospel." (Doctrines of Salvation , vol 1, pg 51)
- Manifestation of the Holy Ghost is given before baptism as a witness to the truth (Moroni 10:4)
 - Dallin H Oaks:
"In contrast, a manifestation of the Holy Ghost is more focused. This manifestation is given to acquaint sincere seekers with the truth about the Lord and his gospel...
To repeat, the Light of Christ is given to all men and women that they may know good from evil; manifestations of the Holy Ghost are given to lead sincere seekers to gospel truths that will persuade them to repentance and baptism." ("Always Have His Spirit," Ensign, Nov. 1996, 59.)

Gift of the Holy Ghost

[\(see Holy Ghost – Outline\)](#)

- Gift of the Holy Ghost is not the Holy Ghost
 - Joseph Smith:
"There is a difference between the Holy Ghost and the gift of the Holy Ghost. Cornelius received the Holy Ghost before he was baptized, which was the convincing power of God unto him of the truth of the Gospel, but he could not receive the gift of the Holy Ghost until after he was baptized. Had he not taken this sign or ordinance upon him, the Holy Ghost which convinced him of the truth of God, would have left him." (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, pg, 199)
- Higher manifestation of the Spirit
 - John Taylor:
" we have something more than that portion of the Spirit of God which is given to every man, and it is called the gift of the Holy Ghost, which is received through obedience to the first principles of the Gospel of Christ, by the laying on of hands of the servants of God." (Gospel Kingdom, pg 43)
 - Charles W Penrose:
"the gift of the Holy Ghost." What is it? It is a greater and higher endowment of the same spirit which enlightens every man that comes into the world" (Journal of Discourses, 23: 350.)

- Bruce R McConkie:
"This gift is a special endowment of divine grace and goodness that is received after baptism and is conferred upon believing souls by the laying on of hands. It is the right to the constant companionship of the Holy Ghost based on faithfulness. It is the right to receive revelation, to see visions, and to be guided from on high. It opens the door so that spiritual gifts and all that the Lord has in store for the faithful may flow to them in abundant measure." (A New Witness for the Articles of Faith, pg 256.)
- Marion G Romney:
" There are three phases of the light of Christ that I want to mention. The first one is the light which enlighteneth every man that cometh into the world; The second phase is the gift of the Holy Ghost; And the third is the more sure word of prophecy." (The Light Of Christ, Priesthood Session: April 1977.)
- Through the greater endowment of the Light of Christ the Holy Ghost conveys to the Saints the gifts of the Spirit

Gifts of the Spirit

- Spiritual gifts come through the Spirit of Christ
 - Moroni 10:17
"And all these gifts come by the Spirit of Christ"
- When the Holy Ghost works with us, he transmits his gifts by the agency of the light of Christ
 - Bruce R McConkie:
"The light of Christ is neither the Holy Ghost nor the gift of the Holy Ghost; but that member of the Godhead, because he along with the Father and the Son is God, uses the light of Christ for his purposes. Thus spiritual gifts, the gifts of God meaning faith, miracles, prophecy, and all the rest— come from God by the power of the Holy Ghost. Men prophesy, for instance, when moved upon by the Holy Ghost. And yet Moroni says: "All these gifts come by the Spirit of Christ" (Moroni 10:17), meaning that the Holy Ghost uses the light of Christ to transmit his gifts. " (A New Witness for the Articles of Faith, pg 258.)
- Since the Holy Ghost uses the Spirit of Christ or Light of Christ to minister to the Saints of God, the term "Spirit of Christ" is sometimes used to refer to the Holy Ghost's ministrations through that Spirit.