

Questions on Chapter 5: The Spirit of Adoption

- 1) How did the author explain to us that the Holy Spirit is the Spirit by whom we receive adoption from the Father?
What biblical references did he use?
- 2) What does the believer attain in this sacrament?
- 3) What did St. Clement of Alexandria say regarding the illumination that baptism bestows upon us?
- 4) According to Origen, why does our Church have baptism at very early age?
- 5) According to Origen, how did our Lord explain to us, 'being born from above' in (John 3 : 5),
- 6) Someone might say that the water in verse i) means the teaching that cleans the soul, which also contributes to being born from above in verse ii). How did Origen explain this?
 - i) (John 7 : 38 – 39),
“ “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water. But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive;”
 - ii) (John 3 : 3),
“Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born from above, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”
- 7) (Matthew 28 : 19), “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”
How did Origen prove that the water that is received together with these words about baptism cannot be mere water?
- 8) What is Origen’s comment on the different evangelists regarding the name they give to the Kingdom?
- 9) According to Origen, why does our Church have a tradition delivered to her from the Apostles to give baptism even to little ones?
- 10) What did St. Athanasius say regarding the Holy Spirit and our adoption (becoming sons) to the Father?
- 11) How did St. Cyril of Alexandria explain to us how a citizen of the earth become a citizen of heaven?
- 12) How did St. Cyril of Alexandria explain to us our Lord’s words to Nicodemus, ‘born from above’?
- 13) What did St. Cyril of Alexandria say regarding the Holy Spirit giving us the title, ‘the sons of God’?
- 14) How can we be committed to the Baptism that we receive?
- 15) How do the fathers of our Church explain to us that there are two aspects of the grace of Baptism: our adoption to God and the renewal of our nature?
- 16) How does St. Athanasius explain to us that the incarnation deified us and rendered us immortal?
- 17) In the Old Testament our Lord made a promise to Ezekiel about a stony heart. What was this promise and how was it fulfilled?
- 18) Explain how St Athanasius shows us distinction between two spirits in the following verse:
(Ezekiel 36 :26), “A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh, and I will put My Spirit within you”

19) How does St. Athanasius use references from St. Paul's epistles to show us that the Holy Spirit is indeed the Spirit of Holiness and Renewal and is called as such?

20) How does St. Athanasius explain to us that the Holy Spirit is Quickening (Life Giving)?

21) What does St. Didymus the Blind tell us about the effect of the Holy Spirit in us?

22) What does St. Macarius the Great say about the effect of the Holy Spirit in us?