Deity of the Holy Spirit

I. The Holy Spirit as a person.

1. The Holy Spirit has the characteristics or attributes that make a person a person – logical thinking, moral values and volition. He thinks and understands (I Corinthians 12:11), is perceptive of moral values (Matt. 12:31, Acts 5:3-9; 7:51).
2. He conducts himself as a person conducts himself. He teaches (John 14:26; 16:13); He guides and directs others (Acts 8:29; 10:19,20; 13:2; 16:6-7; Gal. 5:18; Rom. 8:14; II Peter 1:20,21); He prays for believers (Rom. 8:26,27); He convinces unbelievers of their need to believe in Christ (John 16:8-11); He is called a comforter or helper or advocate (John 14:16), as Christ is called the same (I John 2:1).
3. The Holy Spirit is a member of the trinity. He is distinct from, yet equal with the Father and the Son, both of whom are persons, and He works directly with the Father and the Son (Matt. 3:16, 17; Luke 3:21, 22; II Cor. 13:14). Both the Father and the Son are invisible, yet people do not question that the Father is a person.
4. The grammar of the Greek NT treats Him as a person. In John 16:14, the masculine ekeinos (ἐκεῖνος) "he" or "that one" refers to Christ. John 15:26 uses both masculine and neuter: masculine is "Whom I will send to you from the Father", then the neuter is "Who or which shall proceed from the Father", and then back to the masculine "He shall witness about me". This is compatible with the nouns in context.

II. The Holy Spirit is God. (Acts 5:1-5) The Bible clearly teaches that the Holy Spirit is God.

1. The Bible calls Him God (Acts 5:1-4; 28:25-27 compared with Isa. 6:1-13; Heb. 10: 15-17, and with Jer. 31:31-34; II Sam. 23:2, 3).

2. He has God's essence (Divine Attributes)

   - The Holy Spirit is omnipresent (Ps. 139:7-12)
   - Omniscient (I Cor. 2:10 – 12)
   - Love (Gal. 5:22)
   - Truth (I John 5:6 – The Holy Spirit is identified with truth; so His witness, what He says, is truth)
   - Holy (Matt. 12:31, 32)

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Deity of the Holy Spirit (Continued)

3. The works of the Holy Spirit are works which only God can do.
    - God and the Holy Spirit created the heavens and the earth. (Gen. 1:2)
    - The Holy Spirit brought about the virgin conception and virgin birth (Christ's humanity). (Matt. 1:17; Luke 1:35)
    - The Holy Spirit revealed the mind of God to finite man so that man can know Him. (I Cor. 2:9-11; II Peter 1:20, 21; Acts 1:16)
    - He illuminates or gives understanding of God's Word, the Bible, given to man. (I Cor. 2:12-16)
    - He regenerates man or gives spiritual life (John 3:6; Titus 3:5).
    - He sanctifies each believer (II Thess. 2:13; I Peter 1:2).
4. The Holy Spirit's relationship to the Father and the Son are as equals and as partners in the plan of God (John 15:6; Ps. 104:30).
5. The Holy Spirit has names and titles that belong to God:
    - Spirit of God (Gen. 1:2; Matt. 3:16)
    - Thy Spirit (Ps. 139:7)
    - Spirit of the Lord God (Isa. 61:1)
    - My Spirit (Gen. 6:3)
    - Spirit of Him (Rom. 8:11)
    - Spirit of Christ (Rom. 8:9)
    - Comforter, Advocate (John 14:16-26; 15:26; 16:7)

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