

energy of the Son flowed. Or perhaps the Scriptural expressions may be understood to imply, that, while the Son gave substance and form to creation, the Spirit permeated the whole to give life wherever life appears. Everywhere in creation the highest and most complete form of the thought of God is realized through the Spirit's operations.

The office of the Spirit as Life-Giver is seen especially in the creation of man, when the outward form, according to the narrative, was first brought into being, and then the Spirit of life was infused into him by his Maker. There was therefore in man's original constitution an element of the Divine nature; he was in the truest sense a son of God, and some outlines of the Spirit's original creation still remain in him, and some measure of the common grace of the Spirit still works in him. What is conscience, for example, but some measure of the Holy Spirit's working; as Paul says, "My conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit."

The agency of the Holy Spirit is the explanation of Providence. In many places of the word God is represented as making the events of the physical, but especially of the moral world, fulfil the original design with which he created it. He restrains evil men from sins which they would otherwise have committed. He directs their acts to ends which they did not intend, and of which they never thought. He determines the bounds to be reached by their ambitions and passions; and the measure of the effect of these so that political movements and changes in the currents of thought are made to minister to the glory of Christ and advance the interests of his kingdom.

It is also the belief of the universal church that the Holy Spirit exerted a special influence on the minds of a number of holy men of old, so that they produced certain writings, which differ from all other literary compositions, and form a reliable revelation of all truth necessary to be known about God, the way of salvation, and the duty of all classes of men.

The Third Person of the Trinity convinces certain hearers