

The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit

Part 4

Chapter 4

VIII. The Holy Spirit In The Old Testament

- A. Statistical Facts
 - 1. The Holy Spirit is mentioned 81 times in the Old Testament, 1/3 as many times as He is mentioned in the New Testament.
 - 2. Only 16 books out of the 39 books of the Old Testament, less than half, do not have a reference to the Holy Spirit.
- B. At Creation
 - 1. In **Hebrews 9:14** the Holy Spirit is referred to as “the Eternal Spirit”.
 - 2. The plurality of Deity
 - a. The plural form of the Hebrew word for God (Elohim) found in **Genesis 1:1** presents the thought that the Holy Spirit is included in the Deity who created the world in the beginning.
 - b. As that Deity conferred among Themselves saying, “*Let us make man*” (v. 26), it is again implied that the Holy Spirit was present at the Creation.
 - c. This creative activity is specifically declared in **Genesis 1:2**, “*The Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.*”
- C. With Antediluvians (Before the Flood)
 - 1. **Genesis 6:3a (NLT2)**
Then the LORD said, “My Spirit will not put up with humans for such a long time,
 - 2. Here is a revelation of a ministry of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament which is similar to, if not the same as, that which He has in the New Testament. He now reproves the world of sin and draws men unto Christ.

Before the flood He had striven with men and had secured the loyal following of Enoch and the godly line. But at the time of the flood only Noah and his family were righteous. All others were finally impenitent. One hundred and twenty years more of His striving and then judgment.

D. Joseph and Bezaleel

1. The Spirit of the Lord indwelt Joseph, enabling him to understand the dreams of Pharaoh and to administer the affairs of state (**Genesis 41:38; Acts 7:9–10**).
2. In the erection of the holy tabernacle in the wilderness, the Holy Spirit came upon Bezaleel, who was “filled with the Spirit of God in wisdom and in understanding and in knowledge and in all manner of workmanship to devise cunning works, to work in gold and in silver and in brass, and in cutting of stones to set them, and in carving of timber, to work all manner of workmanship” (**Exodus 31:1–6; 35:30–35**).

E. Moses, Joshua, the Seventy Elders, and the Judges—Gideon, Jephthah and Samson

F. Saul and David

1. The Israelites clamored after a king like the other nations around them.
2. After Eli’s sons’ disobedience and Eli’s failure to correct them, God elected to give Israel the king they asked for.
3. God gave them Saul, a son of Kish, and equipped him for his work by the Holy Spirit’s coming upon him (**1 Samuel 10:6, 10; 11:6; 19:23**).
4. The Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul after he willfully continually disobeyed (**1 Samuel 16:14**).
5. David, Saul’s successor, likewise received the Spirit of the Lord as the anointing for kingship (**1 Samuel 16:13**).
6. In **Psalms 51:11** an account of David’s penitent heart

after he had sinned with Bathsheba, he pleaded with the Lord not to remove His Holy Spirit from him.

Psalm 51:11 (NLT2)

Do not banish me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me.

G. The Prophets

1. All through the history of the children of Israel thereafter there arose the prophets (Isaiah to Malachi) who prophesied under the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

2. God warned through the prophets. **Nehemiah 9:30 (NLT2)**

In your love, you were patient with them for many years. You sent your Spirit, who warned them through the prophets. But still they wouldn't listen! So once again you allowed the peoples of the land to conquer them.

3. **2 Peter 1:20-21 (NLT2)**

²⁰*Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding,*

²¹*or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God.*

H. The Holy Spirit prophesied through individuals who were not necessarily considered “prophets”.

I. The prophet Joel shared a prophetic word from the Lord that there would be a general, universal diffusion of the Holy Spirit. **Joel 2:28-29 (NLT2)**

²⁸*“Then, after doing all those things, I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions.*

²⁹*In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on servants—men and women alike.*

J. The Messiah

1. The Messiah Who was to come was Himself particularly to minister under the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

2. **Isaiah 11:1-3 (NLT2)**

¹*Out of the stump of David's family will grow a shoot— yes, a new Branch bearing fruit from the old root.*

²*And the Spirit of the LORD will rest on him— the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.*

³*He will delight in obeying the LORD. He will not judge by appearance nor make a decision based on hearsay.*

3. **Isaiah 61:1-7 (NLT2)(cf. Luke 4:17-21)**

¹*The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is upon me, for the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to comfort the brokenhearted and to proclaim that captives will be released and prisoners will be freed.*

²*He has sent me to tell those who mourn that the time of the LORD's favor has come, and with it, the day of God's anger against their enemies.*

³*To all who mourn in Israel, he will give a crown of beauty for ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning, festive praise instead of despair. In their righteousness, they will be like great oaks that the LORD has planted for his own glory.*

⁴*They will rebuild the ancient ruins, repairing cities destroyed long ago. They will revive them, though they have been deserted for many generations.*

⁵*Foreigners will be your servants. They will feed your flocks and plow your fields and tend your vineyards.*

⁶You will be called priests of the LORD, ministers of our God. You will feed on the treasures of the nations and boast in their riches.

⁷Instead of shame and dishonor, you will enjoy a double share of honor. You will possess a double portion of prosperity in your land, and everlasting joy will be yours.

Chapter 5

IX. The Holy Spirit In The Time Of Christ

- A. At the birth of John the Baptist and of Jesus
1. Gabriel informed Zacharias (John the Baptist's father) that the son which was to be given to him in his old age would be filled with the Holy Spirit from his mother's womb. **Luke 1:13-15 (NLT2)**
*¹³But the angel said, "Don't be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer. Your wife, Elizabeth, will give you a son, and you are to name him John.
¹⁴You will have great joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth,
¹⁵for he will be great in the eyes of the Lord. He must never touch wine or other alcoholic drinks. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even before his birth.*
 2. Gabriel also told Mary that the Holy Spirit would come upon her and the Holy One Who should be born of her would be called the Son of God. **Luke 1:35 (NLT2)**
The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God.
 3. Again, when Mary went to visit her cousin Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke with a loud voice. (vv. 41-42)
 4. Zacharias, at the birth of John, was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied (v. 67)
 5. Simeon, who was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel was described by Scripture in **Luke 2:25-27a** as having the Holy Spirit upon him. **Luke 2:25-27 (NLT2)**
²⁵At that time there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon. He was righteous and devout and

was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel. The Holy Spirit was upon him²⁶ and had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

²⁷That day the Spirit led him to the Temple.

6. Anna was also a prophetess who recognized by the Holy Spirit the call of God on this young baby's life. (v. 38)

B. In Jesus' Ministry

1. At the River Jordan, John the Baptist was given a sign by Him Who sent Him to baptize with water:

John 1:33-34 (NLT2)

³³I didn't know he was the one, but when God sent me to baptize with water, he told me, 'The one on whom you see the Spirit descend and rest is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.'

³⁴I saw this happen to Jesus, so I testify that he is the Chosen One of God."

2. Peter also referenced this experience in **Acts 10:38 (NLT2)**

And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

3. His very Name "Christ" means "the anointed One"

4. Jesus reading from **Isaiah 61** in the synagogue at Nazareth when He said in **Luke 4:21**: *This day is this Scripture fulfilled in your ears.*

Isaiah 61:1-7 (NLT2)

¹The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is upon me, for the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to comfort the brokenhearted and to proclaim that captives will be released and prisoners

will be freed.

²He has sent me to tell those who mourn that the time of the LORD's favor has come, and with it, the day of God's anger against their enemies.

5. Additional events in Jesus' life directly involving the Holy Spirit
 - a. He was baptized in the Holy Spirit (**Matthew 3:16**)
 - b. He was driven by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness (**Mark 1:12**)
 - c. He returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee (**Luke 4:14**)
 - d. He cast out devils by the Spirit (**Luke 4:14**)
 - e. He offered Himself with out spot to God through the Eternal Spirit (**Hebrews 9:14**)
 - f. He gave commandment to the apostles whom He had chosen through the Holy Spirit (**Acts 1:2**)

- C. John the Baptist prophesied that Jesus would be the instrument for the diffusion of the Holy Spirit that Joel had predicted.

Luke 3:16 (NLT2)

John answered their questions by saying, "I baptize you with water; but someone is coming soon who is greater than I am—so much greater that I'm not even worthy to be his slave and untie the straps of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

- D. Christ predicted that the Holy Spirit would be coming.
 1. He referred to this coming as a "fountain of water":

John 4:14 (NKJV)

but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a

fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

2. He described this coming as "rivers of living water":

John 7:37-39 (NKJV)

³⁷On the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.

³⁸He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."

³⁹But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

3. He explained that His Father would give the Holy Spirit to them that asked Him.

Luke 11:13 (NKJV)

If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

4. He spoke of the Holy Spirit as a Comforter, Advocate, Encourager, Counselor:

John 14:16 (NLT2)

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you.

5. Throughout His farewell discourse to His disciples, He referred many times to the coming of the Holy Spirit and defined something of the ministry which that coming Holy Spirit would perform (**John 14:17, 26; 16:26; 16:7-15**)

- E. Christ breathed the Holy Spirit upon the disciples in the account of **John 20:22**.

- a. This was on the day of His resurrection, as soon as He

had risen in His glory and had become the glorified Christ.

- b. This was a distinct and separate event from the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, which happened 40 days subsequent to this event.