

**WOMEN IN THE WORD
FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH**

THE HOLY SPIRIT REVEALED
Exploring the Father's Promise to Believers

Scripture Reference Notes for
Lesson THREE
THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

January 31, 2023

In past weeks we have discussed the Trinity and the fact that the Holy Spirit is GOD. We talked about the different names for the Holy Spirit and also His attributes and how His personality and character is revealed in scripture.

We are now going to dive into the Old Testament to see where the Holy Spirit has presented Himself and what His function and dealing with people was all about.

As we have done thus far, we are going to allow the Word of God to speak for itself.

The following Old Testament verses are in your study questions so we won't be going over them, trusting you have already done your homework and will talk about them in your discussion groups.

Genesis 1:2, & 41:38-39

Exodus 31:2-5 & 35:30-33

Numbers 27:15-18

Judges 3:10-14 & 6:34-35 & 14:5-6

Daniel 4:8 & 5:11-14 & 6:3

I Samuel 10:9-10 & 16:13-14

Job 26:7-13

Isaiah 40:12-14

There are many others we will discuss here. We will soon see that the Holy Spirit played a very active and important role in the Old Testament.

Through these passages of scripture, we will see that the Holy Spirit “came upon” or “filled” or spoke through” men in the Old Testament for a specific purpose and for a limited period of time.

In his book “The Holy Spirit” Eric S. Fife says:

“There seems to be at least six notable characteristics of the work of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament.....

1. The Holy Spirit was given only to a relatively few selected individuals.
2. He was usually given to enable rather than to accomplish some specific ministry.
3. He had little effect upon their personal moral characters.
4. His presence in a person could be withdrawn.
5. His continued presence in a person depended upon obedience from that person.
6. His coming upon a person was different from the making of them into “the temple of the Holy Spirit” which occurred after Pentecost.”

HERE ARE OUR VERSES:

1. Genesis 1:2---The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.
2. Genesis 6:3---Then the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."
3. Numbers 24:1-4---When Balaam saw that it pleased the LORD to bless Israel, he did not go as at other times to seek omens but he set his face toward the wilderness. And Balaam lifted up his eyes and saw Israel camping tribe by tribe; and the Spirit of God came upon him. He took up his

discourse and said, "The oracle of Balaam the son of Beor, And the oracle of the man whose eye is opened; The oracle of him who hears the words of God, Who sees the vision of the Almighty, Falling down, yet having his eyes uncovered....

4. Numbers 11:16-17---The LORD therefore said to Moses, "Gather for Me seventy men from the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and their officers and bring them to the tent of meeting, and let them take their stand there with you." Then I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take of the Spirit who is upon you, and will put Him upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, so that you will not bear it all alone.

5. Judges 11:29---Now the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah, so that he passed through Gilead and Manasseh; then he passed through Mizpah of Gilead, and from Mizpah of Gilead he went on to the sons of Ammon.

6. Judges 13:24-25---Then the woman gave birth to a son and named him Samson; and the child grew up and the LORD blessed him. And the Spirit of the LORD began to stir him in Mahaneh-dan, between Zorah and Eshtaol.

14:6--The Spirit of the LORD came upon him mightily, so that he tore the lion as one tears a young goat though he had nothing in his hand; but he did not tell his father or mother what he had done.

7. I Samuel 10:6-7---"Then the Spirit of the LORD will come upon you mightily, and you shall prophesy with them and be changed into another man. "It shall be when these signs come to you, do for yourself what the occasion requires, for God is with you."

Vs. 10--When they came to the hill there, behold, a group of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came upon him mightily, so that he prophesied among them.

8. I Samuel 11:4-7---Then the messengers came to Gibeah of Saul and spoke these words in the hearing of the people, and all the people lifted up their voices and wept. Now behold, Saul was coming from the field behind the oxen, and he said, "What is the matter with the people that they weep?" So they related to him the words of the men of Jabesh. Then the Spirit of God

came upon Saul mightily when he heard these words, and he became very angry. He took a yoke of oxen and cut them in pieces, and sent them throughout the territory of Israel by the hand of messengers, saying, "Whoever does not come out after Saul and after Samuel, so shall it be done to his oxen." Then the dread of the LORD fell on the people, and they came out as one man.

9. I Samuel 19:18-20--- Now David fled and escaped and came to Samuel at Ramah, and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and stayed in Naioth. It was told Saul, saying, "Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah." Then Saul sent messengers to take David, but when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, with Samuel standing and presiding over them, the Spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul; and they also prophesied.

10. II Samuel 23:1-3---Now these are the last words of David. David the son of Jesse declares, The man who was raised on high declares, The anointed of the God of Jacob, And the sweet psalmist of Israel, "The Spirit of the LORD spoke by me, And His word was on my tongue." "The God of Israel said, The Rock of Israel spoke to me, 'He who rules over men righteously, Who rules in the fear of God,

11. I Chronicles 12:18---Then the Spirit came upon Amasai, who was the chief of the thirty, and he said, "We are yours, O David, And with you, O son of Jesse! Peace, peace to you, and peace to him who helps you; Indeed, your God helps you!" Then David received them and made them captains of the band.

12. II Chronicles 20:14-15---Then in the midst of the assembly the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, the Levite of the sons of Asaph; and he said, "Listen, all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: thus says the LORD to you, 'Do not fear or be dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but God's.

13. II Chronicles 24:20---Then the Spirit of God came on Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest; and he stood above the people and said to them, "Thus God has said, 'Why do you transgress the commandments of the LORD and do not prosper? Because you have forsaken the LORD, He has also forsaken you.'"

14. Psalm 51:10-12---Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation And sustain me with a willing spirit.

15. Isaiah 11:2---Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, And a branch from his roots will bear fruit. The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

16. Isaiah 44:1-6---"But now listen, O Jacob, My servant, And Israel, whom I have chosen: Thus says the LORD who made you And formed you from the womb, who will help you, 'Do not fear, O Jacob My servant; And you Jeshurun whom I have chosen. 'For I will pour out water on the thirsty land And streams on the dry ground; I will pour out My Spirit on your offspring And My blessing on your descendants; And they will spring up among the grass Like poplars by streams of water. "This one will say, 'I am the LORD'S'; And that one will call on the name of Jacob; And another will write on his hand, 'Belonging to the LORD,' And will name Israel's name with honor. "Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: 'I am the first and I am the last, And there is no God besides Me.

17. Isaiah 61:1-3---The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, Because the LORD has anointed me To bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to captives And freedom to prisoners; To proclaim the favorable year of the LORD And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, To grant those who mourn in Zion, Giving them a garland instead of ashes, The oil of gladness instead of mourning, The mantle of praise instead of a spirit of fainting. So they will be called oaks of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.

18. Ezekiel 11:1---Moreover, the Spirit lifted me up and brought me to the east gate of the LORD'S house which faced eastward. And behold, there were twenty-five men at the entrance of the gate, and among them I saw Jaazaniah son of Azzur and Pelatiah son of Benaiah, leaders of the people.

Ezekiel 11:5--Then the Spirit of the LORD fell upon me, and He said to me, "Say, 'Thus says the LORD, "So you think, house of Israel, for I know your thoughts.

19. Joel 2:28-29---"It will come about after this That I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and daughters will prophesy, Your old men will dream dreams, Your young men will see visions. "Even on the male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

In the book "The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit" by Rene Pache and JD Emerson the conclusion is drawn

"The Old Testament already speaks very clearly of the Spirit and of His work in the past, the present and the future, that is to say at the creation, in the Old and New Covenants. The Spirit gives life, performs miracles, works in the hearts of men, using them as His instruments. In short, nothing is accomplished without Him, and all is brought to pass with His help. God's Word sums it up this way: (Zech 4:6) "Not by might, nor by power but by my Spirit saith the Lord of hosts."

Charles C Ryrie in his book "The Holy Spirit" finishes his chapter on the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament with this statement:

"To sum up: The Holy Spirit did have a ministry to people in Old Testament times. Indeed, it was a bountiful ministry in many cases. However, it was limited to certain Israelites and although He did dwell in, come upon, and sometimes fill people, He did not do these things universally or permanently, even in Israel. Also, He did not perform certain other ministries until the day of Pentecost."

SO WHAT?

Most of the commentaries point out that the Holy Spirit's presence today is much different than it was in the days of the Old Testament.

Today the Holy Spirit of God *dwells within* us as believers. Let's review again these familiar passages.

John 14:16-17---"I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you."

I Corinthians 6:19-20—"Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore, glorify God in your body."

And we are reminded in our memory verse in II Corinthians 13:14....

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

What a gift and what a promise and what a privilege we have been given as believers in Jesus Christ. AMEN!

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

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LESSON THREE

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

1---Where is the Holy Spirit's first appearance in the Old Testament?

See Genesis 1:2

Does this surprise you?

2---We see that the Holy Spirit brought order to creation. Comment on these verses.

Isaiah 40:12

Job 26:13

3---In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit came upon men of God to enable them to do specific work for the Lord.

The Holy Spirit's personal relationship to men at that time was very limited. Not all Old Testament saints experienced His presence nor was His presence with them ever permanent.

Whom did the Holy Spirit come upon in the following scriptures and for what purpose?

Gen 41:38

Exodus 31:3-5,30-33

Numbers 27:18

Daniel 4:8, 5:11-14, 6:3

Judges 3:10, 6:34

Judges 14:6

I Samuel 10:9-10

I Samuel 16:13-14

In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit only came “upon” or “filled” a person for a short period of time and for a specific limited purpose.

In the weeks to come we will talk at length about the experience we have as believers in Jesus Christ who possess the “indwelling” of the Holy Spirit of God.

Perhaps you might want to spend some time in I Cor 6:19 and ask the Lord to reveal to you the special gift He has given to you.

Make notes for yourself as to what comes to mind. It may be interesting to see if you change your thinking from now to the end of our study.

This is all of work of the Lord in our lives. To HIM be all the glory!