

I. The Significance of the Holy Spirit in Creation

A. Scriptures

1. **Genesis 1:1-2 (NKJV)** – *¹In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters*
2. **Genesis 2:7 (NKJV)** – *And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being*
3. **Job 32:8 (NKJV)** – *But it is the spirit in a person, the breath of the Almighty, that gives them understanding.*
4. The trinity of humankind

1 Thessalonians 5:23 (NKJV) – *Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole **spirit, soul, and body** be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

- B. Created in the image and likeness of God, we are a spirit being.
*We live in a body that allows us to function on earth.
We possess a SOUL – the realm of the emotions and natural mind.*

II. Born of the Spirit

When we are saved, we are **Born of the Spirit.**

A. Born again, new birth, new creation

1. Our spirit is re-born
2. We are given a spirit that identifies with God.

3. **Our spirit now has the ability to be empowered and led by the Holy Spirit.**
4. **We are a new creation.**

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV) – *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*

B. John 3:1-7 (NKJV) – ¹*There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.” ³Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” ⁴Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’”*

1. Notice, that Jesus spoke of being “Born of the Spirit.”
2. What takes place in the life of a new convert is the work of the Spirit. *It is not a work of the flesh.*
3. This is the most significant difference between the old covenant people and new covenant saints. *We experience an inward WORK of the Spirit that the old covenant people could not have.*

III. The Word of The Spirit in the Old Testament vs the New Testament

A. The Holy Spirit did work throughout the Old Testament.

1. He worked throughout Creation.
2. He worked at various times with the nation of Israel.
3. He worked at various times with individuals.

4. Examples of His Working

a. Saul

1 Samuel 10:9-10 (NKJV) – ⁹So it was, when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, that God gave him another heart; and all those signs came to pass that day. ¹⁰When they came there to the hill, there was a group of prophets to meet him; then the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them.

b. Those called to build the first tabernacle.

Exodus 31:1-5 (NKJV) – ¹Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ²“See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. ³And I have **filled him with the Spirit of God**, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, ⁴to design artistic works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze, ⁵in cutting jewels for setting, in carving wood, and to work in all manner of workmanship

NOTE: Although this is O.T. we can see how the Spirit of God empowers people to accomplish specific tasks. If the Holy Spirit could empower O.T. saints for specific tasks, how much more is He able to empower and equip those who have been born of the Spirit?

c. Samson

Judges 14:6 (NKJV) – And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and he tore the lion apart as one would have torn apart a young goat, though he had nothing in his hand. But he did not tell his father or his mother what he had done

NOTE: Notice the supernatural strength and ability to overcome an enemy that was given to Samson by the Holy Spirit. How

much more can we expect to receive supernatural power to overcome our enemies?

- d. There were many who experienced the power of the Holy spirit.
- They prophesied and declared the word of the Lord.
 - They received direction from the Holy Spirit.
 - They were protected by the Holy Spirit.
 - They did remarkable things by the power of the Holy Spirit.

NOTE: WE must become convinced that life with God has always been a “SPIRIT LIFE” and it always will be. It is never about man appeasing God through works – it is about allowing GOD the HOLY SPIRIT to access our life and work supernaturally through us.

B. Old Testament prophecies regarding the work of the Spirit in new covenant people.

1. **Ezekiel 36:24-27 (NKJV)** – ²⁴For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land. ²⁵Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. ²⁶I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

Ezekiel 36:24-27 (GWT) – ²⁴I will take you from the nations and gather you from every country. I will bring you back to your own land. ²⁵I will sprinkle clean water on you and make you clean instead of unclean. Then I will cleanse you from all your idols. ²⁶I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you. I will remove your stubborn hearts and give you obedient hearts. ²⁷I will put my Spirit in you. I will enable you to live by my laws, and you will obey my rules

2. **Joel 2:28-29 (NKJV)** – ²⁸“And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall

see visions. ²⁹And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

Joel 2:28-29 (NLT) – 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. ²⁹In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on servants—men and women alike

Note: Peter quoted this passage when explaining what was taking place at the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.

NOTICE – the outpouring affected ALL people regardless of sex or class.

For those who struggle with women in ministry, the Word of God is very clear on the subject in this passage. Men and Women alike will be used of the Lord.

Pastor’s Thought – *I haven’t figured out how women can prophecy silently.*

IV. Closing considerations.

God wants us to understand that our experience with Him is to be “Life in the Spirit.”

- A. Whatever we receive of Him will be received by the Spirit.**
- B. Whatever fruit and harvest we receive will be by the Spirit**
- C. Whatever good works we accomplish personally and/or in ministry will always be due to the Spirit – not of our own doing.**
- D. This is the Spirit Life.**

1. **Zechariah 4:6-7 (NKJV)** – *⁶So he answered and said to me: “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ says the LORD of hosts. ⁷‘Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone with shouts of “Grace, grace to it!””*

Zechariah 4:6 (NLT) – *It is not by force nor by strength, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies.*

Zechariah 4:6 (CEV) – *I am the LORD All-Powerful. So do not depend on your own power or strength, but on my Spirit.*

Zechariah 4:6 (Douay Rheims) – *Not with an army, nor by might, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.*