

God the Holy Spirit

The Work of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

When we think of the Holy Spirit, what often comes to mind? Perhaps His work in our lives or His work in the New Testament. But just like God the Father and God the Son, the Holy Spirit is active in the Old Testament as well. This section of our study will look at some of what He was doing before Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

The Holy Spirit's work in Creation:

- I. Study Genesis 1 for our first view of the Spirit:
 - a. In Verse 2, what is the Spirit of God doing? _____

 - b. What is the Strong's number for the Hebrew word translated as "spirit" here? _____
 - c. What is the Strong's definition for this word? _____

 - d. In verse 26, when God is preparing to make man, does God use singular or plural personal pronouns to refer to Himself? _____
- II. Next turn to Job 33 to answer these questions:
 - a. Review the previous chapter to find who is speaking at this point in the book.
Speaker: _____ Verse which shows this: _____
(NOTE: While the book of Job is inspired, the arguments of this person are not necessarily inspired. This is simply an accurate record of that person's opinion. But their statements show what was considered to be common knowledge at the time.)
 - b. Which verse in chapter 33 mentions the Spirit of God? _____
 - c. What action was attributed to the Spirit of God? _____
- III. Study Psalm 104:24-30 to answer these questions:
 - a. According to this section, who provides for the sea creature? _____
 - b. Which verse mentions the Spirit of God? _____
 - c. According to this verse what happens when God sends forth His Spirit? _____

The Holy Spirit's work through men in the Old Testament:

- I. First let's take a quick look at some familiar New Testament passages:
 - a. In 1 Peter 1:10-12, the prophets prophesied concerning what? _____

 - i. In this section who was indicating these things to them? _____
 - ii. It was revealed to them that they were serving whom with their work? _____

 - iii. According to verse 12, those who preached the good news did so by the power of whom? _____

b. According to 2 Peter 1:19-21, how many scriptures are left up to an individual's interpretation? _____

i. How many true prophecies were ever made by the will of men? _____

ii. True prophecies came about when men spoke from _____ as they were carried along (or moved) by _____.

II. Now let's go to the Old Testament to examine what is said there about the Holy Spirit's work through man.

a. In Exodus 31:1-11 who did God say was filled with the Spirit of God? _____

i. In what was the Spirit going to lead this man (v. 3)? 1. _____

2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____

ii. For what purpose did God fill him with these things (v. 4-5)? _____

iii. Exodus 35:30-35 is a parallel to this passage. According to that passage, what else did the Spirit give him the ability to do (Hint, look in verse 34). _____

iv. Who else did the Spirit fill with these gifts? _____

v. The Spirit also filled them with what other gifts? _____

b. According to Numbers 11:10-20 what problem was Moses facing? _____

i. To solve the problem, God had Moses gather what? _____

ii. What did God say HE would do with His spirit? _____

iii. For what purpose was God going to do this? _____

c. In Numbers 27:18-23, who is said to have the Spirit in them? _____

i. What is Moses to do with this person? _____

d. In Judges 3:7-11 what did the people of Israel do to displease God? _____

i. Who did God allow to oppress the people? _____

ii. Upon whom was the Spirit of the Lord? _____

iii. When the people cried out to the Lord, what did the Spirit of the Lord empower this person to do? _____

- e. In Ezekiel chapter 11 how many times is the word “Spirit” used? _____
- i. By studying the context, are all of these occurrences referring to the Spirit of the Lord? _____
 - ii. List which verse in which each occurrence is found, and whether it is referring to the Spirit of the Lord or some other spirit: _____

 - iii. Who is speaking to Ezekiel in verse 5? _____
 - iv. Ezekiel is commanded to tell the people that the message is from whom? _____

- f. Who is speaking in Micah 3:8? (Study the context of the previous chapter[s]) _____
- i. What four things is he filled with? 1. _____
2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____
 - ii. For what purpose was he full of these things? _____

- g. According to Zechariah 7:12-14, what was sent by the Spirit of the Lord? _____
- i. The Spirit sent this through whom? _____
 - ii. What was the response from the people? _____
 - iii. How Did God react to the people’s response? _____

Old Testament Prophecies of His work in the Messiah:

- I. First let’s take a look at Isaiah 11:1-5. This is a prophesy about the Messiah.
- a. From whose family would the Messiah come according to this passage? _____
 - b. What connection does this passage describe between the Messiah and the Spirit of God?

 - c. What descriptions are given of the Spirit of the Lord in this passage?
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. _____
- II. Next let’s look at Isaiah 42:1-4, another prophecy about the Messiah.
- a. How does the first part of verse 1 describe God’s attitude toward the Messiah? _____

 - b. What did God do with His spirit? _____
 - c. What would the character of the Messiah be? _____

There are more passages about the Spirit’s work in the Messiah, as well as more passages about the Spirit’s work in the Old Testament in general. We do not have the space in this study packet to study them all, but these have been included to give us a good idea of what the Holy Spirit was doing in Old Testament times.

The Personality of the Holy Spirit

Sometimes people refer to the Holy Spirit as a vague “it.” But in this section we will see that the Holy Spirit has personality, just like the Father and the Son.

The use of personal pronouns to refer to the Holy Spirit:

- I. In John 14:26, what personal pronoun is applied to the Holy Spirit? _____
 - a. What was the Holy Spirit going to do according to this verse? _____

- II. In John 16:12-15, how does Jesus refer to the Holy Spirit? _____
 - a. How many times are personal pronouns used in reference to the Holy Spirit in this section? _____ What personal pronoun is used? _____
 - b. What did Jesus say the Holy Spirit would do? _____

How the Holy Spirit’s actions are described show His personality:

- I. In 1 Timothy 4:1-3, what specifically does the Spirit do? _____
 - a. Can a nebulous non-entity do this? _____
- II. In Acts 2:4, what did the Holy Spirit do? _____
 - a. Can a nebulous non-entity do this? _____
- III. In Acts 16:6-7 what did the Holy Spirit do? _____
 - a. Can a nebulous non-entity do this? _____
- IV. In 1 Corinthians 2:10-11, what does God do through the Spirit? _____

 - a. In verse 10, what does the Spirit do? _____
 - b. Can a nebulous non-entity do this? _____
- V. We will study 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 later on in this packet. But, for the moment let’s look at verse 11.
 - a. What does the Spirit do for “all these?” _____
 - b. Does the Spirit have His own “will” on which to act? _____
 - c. Can a nebulous non-entity do these things? _____
- VI. In Romans 8:26-27 what two things does the Spirit do?
 - a. _____ b. _____
 - b. Can a nebulous non-entity do these things? _____

The Deity of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is included when the Godhead is listed (this is not an exhaustive list):

- I. According to Jesus in Matthew 28:19-20, in whose name are people supposed to be baptized? a. _____ b. _____ c. _____
a. Would we be following this command if we left the Holy Spirit out? _____
- II. As he closes the book of 2 Corinthians, Paul says:
 - a. “The grace of the _____ and the love of _____ and the fellowship of the _____ be with you all.” (2 Corinthians 13:14, ESV)
- III. Peter addresses his first epistle to “those who are elect... according to the foreknowledge of _____, in the sanctification of the _____, for obedience to _____ and for sprinkling with His blood” (1 Peter 1:1b-2a, ESV)

The titles applied to the Holy Spirit show He is deity:

- I. In 2 Corinthians 3:17-18, what title does Paul apply to the Spirit? _____
 - a. What is the Strong’s number for the Greek word from which this title is translated? _____
 - b. To whom does Paul apply this same title in 2 Corinthians 1:2? _____
 - c. Does Paul use the same Greek word in both instances? _____
 - d. Thus, Paul applies the same title to the Spirit as He does to _____
- II. Study Acts 5:1-11 to answer the following questions:
 - a. In verse 3, to whom does Peter say Ananias lied? _____
 - b. Then in verse 4, to whom does Peter say Ananias lied? _____
 - c. Thus, lying to the Holy Spirit is lying to _____.
- III. Study Romans chapter 8 to find the answers to these questions (we will study this passage more later on in this packet):
 - a. How many occurrence of “Spirit” are in this chapter? _____
 - b. In Romans 8:2, what title is applied to the Spirit? _____
- IV. In John 16:12-15, what does Jesus call the Holy Spirit? _____

The Holy Spirit has the attributes of Deity:

- I. What attribute is ascribed to the Holy Spirit in Hebrews 9:14? _____
- II. 1 Corinthians 2:10-11 tells us that the Spirit searches _____, even the depths of _____.
 - a. No one can comprehend the thoughts of God except whom? _____
 - b. Thus, since God is all-knowing, the Holy Spirit is also _____
- III. In Genesis 1:2 what was moving over the surface of the water? _____
 - a. Thus, the Holy Spirit was involved in the creation!

- IV. In Psalm 139:7-12, the psalmist asks “where can I go from _____? Or where can I flee from _____?”
- a. In the following verses, the psalmist comes to what conclusion? _____
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Baptism in the Holy Spirit

This is where any discussion of the Holy Spirit gets interesting and sometimes controversial. There are people today who say they have experienced baptism in the Holy Spirit. There are others who say that baptism in the Holy Spirit does not happen anymore. This section of our packet will examine the passage dealing with this difficult topic in the hopes of clearing this up.

Jesus Administered Holy Spirit Baptism:

- I. Study John 1:19-34 for the answers to these questions:
- a. Of whom did John the baptizer say “After me comes a Man who has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me”? _____
- b. With what was John sent to baptize? _____
- c. With what does John say Jesus would baptize? _____
- II. According to Joel 2:28-29, who pours out the Spirit? _____
- a. What would be the result of this “pouring out”? _____
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The Purpose of Holy Spirit Baptism on the Apostles: Read through John chapters 14-16 to get the context of this section, then answer these questions:

- I. To whom specifically is Jesus talking in this section? _____
- II. In John 14:15-17, who would give the Spirit? _____
- III. In John 14:26, what two things would the Holy Spirit do for them?
- a. _____ you _____ things
- b. And bring to your _____ all that _____ to you.
- IV. According to John 15:26, from whom would the Spirit of truth proceed? _____
- a. What would the Spirit do? _____
- V. In to John 16:13, into what would the Spirit guide them? _____
- a. By whose authority would the Spirit speak? _____
- VI. In John 16:14, who would the Spirit glorify? _____
- a. What would the Spirit do with “what is mine”? _____
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Occurrences of Holy Spirit Baptism:

- I. Study Acts chapter 2 to see the first occurrence of Holy Spirit Baptism:
- a. In verse 1 it says “they” were together in one place. Looking at the previous verse, to which group of people is “they” referring? _____
 - b. After the noise of a violent rushing wind, what settled on top of each of them? _____

 - c. At that moment, with what was each of them filled? _____
 - d. What did they each begin to do when this happened? _____
 - i. What is the Strong’s number for the Greek word translated as “tongues”? _____
 - ii. What is the definition of this word? _____

 - e. According to verses 5 and 6, were the different tongues the Apostles were speaking actual earthly languages that people could understand, or were they secret personal languages that others could not understand? _____
 - f. The people listening were from which places? _____

 - g. What accusation is made toward the Apostles in verse 13? _____
 - h. What passage that we have already studied in this packet does Peter use to explain what is happening here? _____
 - i. The miracle of the apostles speaking in languages they had not studied, along with the scripture Peter quoted, proved to the listeners that Peter’s message was from God:

True / False

- II. Study Acts chapter 10 to see the next occurrence of Holy Spirit Baptism:
- a. Were Cornelius and his household Jews? _____
 - b. At first was Peter excited to go with the men? _____
 - c. In verse 44 and 45 upon whom did the Holy Spirit fall? _____
 - d. What caused Peter to exclaim “Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people”? _____

 - e. What happened to the household of Cornelius in verse 48? _____

 - f. Did the household of Cornelius receive Holy Spirit Baptism as a result of their physical baptism in water, or before that? _____
 - g. According to Acts 11:1-18 what event convinced the Jewish Christians that Gentiles could now become Christians? _____

Difference between Holy Spirit Baptism and Water Baptism:

- I. In Matthew 28:18-20 who is commanded to do the Baptizing? _____
 - a. The purpose of the baptism being discussed here is, according to Jesus, to do what in all the nations? _____
 - b. What else is supposed to be done along with this baptism? _____
- II. We see that Holy Spirit Baptism happened in very specific situations to prove that the kingdom of Christ was being opened in specific groups of people: **first the Jews, then the Gentiles.**
- III. Water Baptism, however, is the way any person is joined with Christ to become a Christian and have their sins washed away. If you have more questions about this please feel free to contact David or the Elders.

Miraculous Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Another hotly debated subject concerns the Miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit. Once again, we are going to strive to study God’s word to see what it says about this difficult topic.

NOTE: when we say “miraculous spiritual gifts” we are referring to the ability to do things that are not naturally possible (i.e. instantly healing grievous injuries, speaking a foreign language without learning it, directly receiving previously unknown information from God, etcetera). We are not referring to the natural abilities that a person might possess or skills that they have developed through hard work and determination.

The Purpose of Miraculous Spiritual Gifts:

- I. **To provide miraculous confirmation of the message being preached**
 - a. According to Hebrews 2:1-4, how did God bear witness to the word that was declared?
 - i. _____ ii. _____ iii. _____ iv. _____
- II. **To enable each church to build themselves up in the faith**
 - a. In Ephesians 4:11-16 how many times are growth words used (i.e. grow, edify, build up, etcetera)? _____
 - i. What five groups of people did God give the church according to this passage?
 - 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____
 - 4. _____ 5. _____
 - ii. What two specific reasons are given for why God gave these people?
 - 1. For the _____
 - 2. To the _____
 - iii. According to verse 16, what happens when every joint of the church supplies its part to the work? _____

What 1 Corinthians chapters 12-14 have to say about miraculous Spiritual gifts, rules for using them and the fact that they were intended to be temporary.

- I. In 1 Corinthians chapters 12-14, how many occurrences of the following words do you find?
 Gifts: _____ Spiritual gifts: _____ Spirit: _____ Holy Spirit: _____
 Body: _____ Church: _____

- II. In 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, how many miraculous spiritual gifts are listed? _____
- a. What are the gifts that are listed here? _____

 - b. On a separate paper, list the Strong's number and definition of each miraculous spiritual gift listed here.
 - c. Were these gifts intended for personal gain or fame? ____ Which verse tells us this? _____
- III. According to 1 Cor. 13:1-3, what makes any spiritual gift effective? _____
- a. Which spiritual gifts are listed in these verses? _____

- IV. In 1 Corinthians 13:8-13, what never ends? _____
- a. What would happen to the gift of miraculous prophecies? _____
 - b. What would happen to the gift of miraculous tongues? _____
 - c. What would happen to the gift of miraculous knowledge? _____
 - d. According to verse 9, what was "in part?" _____
 - e. Prophecies, tongues and miraculous knowledge all have to do with sharing God's word, but this had only happened "in part" (because the full word of God was not yet completely written). What would happen to "that which was partial" when the perfect word of God (a.k.a. the Bible) was complete? _____
 - f. According to verse 11, when the church grew into maturity, would it need the things of childhood anymore? _____
 - g. In verse 12 knowing God's word through miraculous gifts is likened to seeing in a _____
_____, and to knowing in _____
 - h. But, the time in which the perfected word of God (the Bible) was delivered, is likened to seeing _____ to _____, and being fully _____.
 - i. What three things abide forever? i. _____ ii. _____ iii. _____
- V. In 1 Corinthians 14, what two Miraculous Spiritual gifts are mentioned most?
- a. _____ b. _____
 - b. Which of these does Paul say they should desire more? _____
 - c. What rules does Paul give for speaking in tongues in the following verses?
 - i. Verse 5, _____
 - ii. Verse 13, _____
 - iii. Verse 27, _____
 - iv. Verse 28, _____

- d. What rules does Paul give for Prophesying in the following verses?
 - i. Verse 29, _____
 - ii. Verse 30, _____
 - iii. Verse 31, _____
- e. What rules does Paul give for general conduct in the assembly in the following verses?
 - i. Verse 26, _____
 - ii. Verse 34, _____
 - iii. Verse 40, _____
- f. After studying this chapter, could the people who had miraculous spiritual gifts control their use of those gifts? _____

How did people get these miraculous spiritual gifts?

- I. Study Acts chapter 8 for the answers to these questions:
 - a. Where did Philip go when the believers fled Jerusalem? _____
 - b. According to verses 12-13, what was the result of Philip’s work? _____

 - c. According to verses 14-16, why did the apostles send Peter and John there? _____

 - d. Phillip could not do this because he was not an _____, but Peter and John were _____ so they could.
 - e. According to verse 17, at what point did people receive the miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit? _____
 - f. According to verse 18, Simon saw that the gifts were bestowed by whom, and in what way? _____
 - g. In verses 19-24 what did Simon try to do? _____

- II. In Acts 19:1-7, Paul encounters some men who had been baptized with which baptism? _____

 - a. When they heard about Jesus what did they do? _____
 - b. At what point did they Holy Spirit come on them such that they began speaking in tongues and prophesying? _____
- III. In Romans 1:11, what reason does Paul give for wanting to visit the Christians in Rome? _____

- IV. In 2 Timothy 1:6-7, Paul says that Timothy’s gifts were given through what? _____

These passages show that miraculous spiritual gifts were given through the laying on of the Apostles hands. Once the Apostles all died, and the Bible was complete, these gifts were no longer needed, so they ended.

The Holy Spirit Dwells in Christians

In the last section, we studied the miraculous spiritual gifts of the Holy Spirit (which, as we saw, have ended). Before that, we studied the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Both the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the miraculous spiritual gifts were different measures of the Holy Spirit. They were restricted and specific concerning who would receive them. There is a third measure of the Holy Spirit, which is not nearly as restricted.

The promise was to all believers:

- I. In John 7:37-39 What does Jesus say is going to flow out of the hearts of His followers? _____

 - a. In verse 39, the text explains Jesus spoke of what? _____
 - b. Who does the text say would receive this? _____
 - c. According to the text had this been given yet at that time? _____
- II. According to 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 what has God put on us? _____
 - a. What reason is given for why God has given us His Spirit in our hearts? _____
 - b. What is the Strong's number for the Greek word translated "guarantee" or "pledge"? _____
 - c. What is the definition for this Greek word? _____
- III. Study 2 Corinthians 5:1-5 to get the context for these question:
 - a. In verse 5, what reasons is given for why God gives the Holy Spirit to believers? _____

 - b. Is this the same Greek word as was used in 2 Corinthians 1:22? _____

The Apostles taught that the Holy Spirit indwells the children of God:

- I. In Acts 2:38 who did Peter say would receive the gift of the Holy Spirit? _____
 - a. Looking at the sentence structure of Acts 2:38, which comes first; A person being baptized or the person receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit? _____
- II. Romans 8:9-11 says that anyone who does not have the Spirit does not _____
 - a. What is dead because of sin? _____
 - b. To what will the Spirit will give life? _____
 - c. Where does verse 11 say that the spirit dwells? _____
- III. According to 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, what is the temple of the Holy Spirit? _____
 - a. The Holy Spirit is from: _____
 - b. Because of this, do we own ourselves? _____
- IV. In Galatians 4:4-7, Paul says that God sent the Holy Spirit into: _____
 - a. What is the Holy Spirit doing there? _____
 - b. "so you are no longer a _____, but a _____, and if a _____, then an _____ through God." (Galatians 4:7, ESV)

There is more that we could study about the Holy Spirit, but this has been enough to get you started on your pursuit of knowing more about the Holy Spirit. If you have questions please talk to David or the Elders!