

Biblical Theology

Unit 6: Doctrine of The Holy Spirit – Lesson 2: Works of the Holy Spirit, Part 1

Old Testament Activity

The Spirit of God (Ruah) is described as interacting with specific individuals about 60 throughout the Old Testament.

- There are four main categories of people the Spirit interacts with in the Old Testament.
 1. ***Certain prophets were empowered by the Holy Spirit to communicate the truth of God.***
 - **2 Peter 1:21** - For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.
 - **Ezekiel 11:5** - And the Spirit of the Lord fell upon me, and he said to me, "Say, Thus says the Lord: So you think, O house of Israel. For I know the things that come into your mind.
 - **2 Chronicles 15** - The Spirit of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded, and he went out to meet Asa and said to him,
 2. ***Certain craftsmen were empowered by the Holy Spirit to possess special skills and gifts.***
 - **Exodus 31:1-5** - The Lord said to Moses, "See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with ability and intelligence, with knowledge and all craftsmanship, to devise artistic designs, to work in gold, silver, and bronze, in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, to work in every craft.
 3. ***Certain judges were empowered by the Holy Spirit to carry out God's work in supernatural ways.***
 - **Judges 3:10** - The Spirit of the Lord was upon [Othniel], and he judged Israel. He went out to war, and the Lord gave Cushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand. And his hand prevailed over Cushan-rishathaim.
 - **Judges 6:34** - But the Spirit of the Lord clothed Gideon, and he sounded the trumpet, and the Abiezrites were called out to follow him.
 - **Judges 14:19** - And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon him, and he went down to Ashkelon and struck down thirty men of the town and took their spoil
 4. ***Certain rulers were empowered by the Holy Spirit to lead God's people.***
 - **Numbers 11:16-17; 24-29** - Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, that the Lord would put his Spirit on them!".
 - **1 Samuel 11:5-9** Then the Spirit of the Lord will rush upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man.

Old Testament Prophecies of Future Outpouring

There are at least 40 Old Testament references to and expanded outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the last days.

- Latter days understood by the Hebrew people as time when God sends a Messiah to fulfill his covenant to his people and right all wrongs.
 1. ***The future outpouring of the Spirit was understood to be widespread but selective.***
 - **Isaiah 44:1-5** - For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.

2. ***The future outpouring of the Spirit was understood to be transformative.***
 - **Ezekiel 32:22-29** - "And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.
3. ***The future outpouring of the Spirit was understood as unifying via task orientation.***
 - **Joel 2:28-29** - 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, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit.

Messianic Activity

The Holy Spirit age was ushered in by the ministry and ultimate glorification of the Messiah.

- The Holy Spirit was involved in every aspect of Jesus' life and ministry from birth to glorification.
 1. ***The Holy Spirit is responsible for the miracle of the conception of Jesus.***
 - **Matthew 1:18-20 (Luke 1:35)** - Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.
 2. ***The Holy Spirit was active in every aspect of Jesus' life and ministry.***
 - **Matthew 3:16** - And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him;
 - **Luke 4:1-2** - And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil.
 - **Luke 4:14-21** - "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
 3. ***The Holy Spirit participated in the process of the Lamb of God's ultimate sacrifice.***
 - **Hebrews 9:13-14** - who through the eternal Spirit offered himself
 4. ***The Holy Spirit is seen as the power by which Christ was raised from the dead.***
 - **Romans 8:11** - If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead
 5. ***The Holy Spirit working through the church is the continuation of Jesus' ministry on earth in his physical absence.***
 - **John 14:12-16** - "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.
 - **John 16:13-14** - When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.