

“By My Spirit!”
The Holy Spirit In The Old Testament

Introduction:

1. Much Of What We Learn About The Holy Spirit Is Found In The New Testament!
 - However, There Is A Foundation In The Old Testament That We Must Learn & Then Build Upon!
 - Many Neglect The Importance Of The Old Testament – But In Doing So, They May Have A Shaky Foundation In Order For Them To “Walk In The Spirit” & “Be Led By The Spirit!”
2. Brief Survey Of The Holy Spirit In The Old Testament!
 - Appears Nearly 100 Times!
 - We See A Personal & Divine Spirit Working From The Very Beginning!
 - And Through The Old Testament, We Come To Realize A Great *Need* For Him & His Work In Our Life Today!
 - Our World’s Need Of The Holy Spirit!
 - Our Physical Need Of The Holy Spirit!
 - Our Spiritual Need Of The Holy Spirit!
 - Our Present Need Of The Holy Spirit!

1. *Our World’s Need Of The Holy Spirit!*

- His Work Of Creating!
 - Genesis 1:2 - “And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters!”
- His Work Of Sustaining!
 - Psalm 104:30 - “Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth!” (The Leviathan)
- His Work Of Providence!
 - Isaiah 40:7 - “The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass!”
- His Work Of Restraining!
 - Genesis 6:3 - “And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years!”
 - Numbers 24:2 - Balaam - Unbeliever - The Holy Spirit Intervened & Changed Their Will And Their Behavior - “And Balaam lifted up his eyes, and he saw Israel abiding in his tents according to their tribes; and the spirit of God came upon him!”
- We Need The Holy Spirit In This World!
 - And Should Be Thankful For His Work In The World, As He Still Works In These Ways!

2. *Our Physical Need Of The Holy Spirit!*

- Major Theme In The Old Testament!
 - Physical Work & Gifts To His People & Even People Who Do Not Believe In Him!
 - Often The Phrase Is “Came Upon / Fell Upon” On A Specific Person For A Specific Purpose And For Specific Period (Nearly All Of The Time, Temporary)!
 - It Would Distinguish That Person For The Service Of God!
 - Happen Suddenly / Unexpectedly / For The Blessing Of His People! See 2 Chronicles 20:14-17 - “14 ¶ Then upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the LORD in the midst of the congregation; And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God’s. To morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel. Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you!”
- Physical Life!

- Job 33:4 - "The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life!"
- Physical Strength!
 - Judges 13:25; 14:6; 14:19; 15:14-15 - "And the Spirit of the LORD began to move him at times in the camp of Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol." / 14:6 - "And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and he rent him as he would have rent a kid, and he had nothing in his hand: but he told not his father or his mother what he had done." / 14:19 - "And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he went down to Ashkelon, and slew thirty men of them, and took their spoil, and gave change of garments unto them which expounded the riddle. And his anger was kindled, and he went up to his father's house." / 15:14-15 - "And when he came unto Lehi, the Philistines shouted against him: and the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and the cords that were upon his arms became as flax that was burnt with fire, and his bands loosed from off his hands. And he found a new jawbone of an ass, and put forth his hand, and took it, and slew a thousand men therewith!"
- Physical Skill!
 - Exodus 28:3 - "And thou shalt speak unto all that are wise hearted, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments to consecrate him, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office!"
 - Exodus 31:2-3 - "See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah: And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship!"
- Physical Guidance!
 - Judges 13:25 - "And the Spirit of the LORD began to move him at times in the camp of Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol!"
- Most Of The Time, The Holy Spirit Worked In A Physical Way!
 - This Was Needed In The Old Testament!
 - This Is Needed Today!
- We Need The Holy Spirit To Work In Our Physical Lives!
 - Often We Stop Relying On Him & Start Relying On Ourselves & Our Own Strength!
 - Zechariah 4:6 - "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts!"
 - We Depend On Ourselves Too Much!

3. ***Our Spiritual Need Of The Holy Spirit!***

- While This Is The Major Theme In The New Testament, It Is Not Excluded From The Old Testament!
 - Is Parallel To The Physical Needs We Have!
- Spiritual Life!
 - 1 Samuel 10:6 - "And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man!"
- Spiritual Strength!
 - Numbers 11:17, 25-26 - "And I will come down and talk with thee there: and I will take of the spirit which is upon thee, and will put it upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with thee, that thou bear it not thyself alone." / "And the LORD came down in a cloud, and spake unto him, and took of the spirit that was upon him, and gave it unto the seventy elders: and it came to pass, that, when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, and did not cease. But there remained two of the men in the camp, the name of the one was Eldad, and the name of the other Medad: and the spirit rested upon them; and they were of them that were written, but went not out unto the tabernacle: and they prophesied in the camp!"
- Spiritual Skill!
 - Nehemiah 9:20 - "Thou gavest also thy good spirit to instruct them, and witheldest not thy manna from their mouth, and gavest them water for their thirst."
 - 2 Samuel 23:1-2 - "Now these be the last words of David. David the son of Jesse said, and the man who was raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel, said, The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word was in my tongue!"
- Spiritual Guidance!
 - Psalm 143:10 - "Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God: thy spirit is good; lead me into the land of uprightness!"

- We Need The Holy Spirit To Work In Our Spiritual Lives!
- And Depend On Him To Produce The Life, Strength, Skill & Guidance We Need – Just As We Depend On Him To Protect Our Physical Lives! In The New Testament, This Is Called His Fruit!
- We Depend On Ourselves Too Much!

4. *Our Present Need Of The Holy Spirit!*

- If The Holy Spirit Worked In The Old Testament & In The New Testament & Today – Is There A Difference?
 - Yes!
 - The Will & Work Of The Spirit Is The Same!
 - The Presence Of The Spirit Is Different!
- In The Old Testament, The Holy Spirit Did His Work From The Outside In!
 - This Is Why It Is Constantly Said: “He Came Upon” A Specific Person For A Specific Purpose And For A Specific Period Of Time!
 - There Are A Few Times Where The Holy Spirit Is Said To Be “In” Someone (Joseph / David / Ezekiel) - But With The Exception Of David, These Too Were Specific!
 - In The Old Testament, The Holy Spirit’s Presence & Power Were Desired!
 - Numbers 11:29 - “And Moses said unto him, Enviest thou for my sake? would God that all the LORD’S people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit upon them!”
 - In The Old Testament, The Holy Spirit’s Presence & Power Were Promised!
 - Isaiah 44:3 - “For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring!”
 - Ezekiel 11:17-20; 36:26-27 - “Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel. / And they shall come thither, and they shall take away all the detestable things thereof and all the abominations thereof from thence. / And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: / That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God!” / 36:26-27 - “A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. / And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them!”
- We Need The Holy Spirit Today!
 - And His Desired Presence & Promised Presence Is In Every Christian Today!
 - John 14:16-17 - “And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you!”

Conclusion:

1. We Need The Holy Spirit Today As Much As, If Not More Than, Those Who Lived During The Old Testament!
 - We Need Him To Work In Our World!
 - We Need Him To Work In/Through Our Physical Lives!
 - We Need Him To Work In/Through Our Spiritual Lives!
 - Because He Does The Same Work Now As He Did Then!
 - It Is Not What He Does That Has Changed!
 - It Is Where He Does It From!
2. In The Old Testament, After A Person Became A Child Of God, The Holy Spirit Did His Work From The Outside In!
 - Today, The Holy Spirit Does His Work From The Inside Out!
3. Recognize Your Need For The Holy Spirit!
 - We Are Weak & Impotent!

- Isaiah 30:1-2 - "Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin: That walk to go down into Egypt, and have not asked at my mouth; to strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh, and to trust in the shadow of Egypt!"

4. This, I Believe, Is The Message Of The Holy Spirit In The Old Testament!
 - We Need The Holy Spirit!
 - We Depend / Rely Upon Ourselves Too Much!
 - John 6:63 - "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing!"

***Grace Baptist Church of Mohawk
Stephen Elmer, Pastor
4245 North 200 West
Greenfield, Indiana 46140
317-326-2362
pastor-elmer@hotmail.com
www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace***