

# Holy Spirit – Lesson 1 (Notes)



- Of the three members of the Trinity the Holy Spirit is probably the most mysterious to us.
- **Basic definition of “spirit”.**
  - **A spirit is a being without a body.**
- **“Ruach”** (Ru-ah-ch {*flem*}). – Means spirit or wind.
- **The Holy Spirit is there at the very beginning. First verse.** (Genesis 1:1-2)
  
- **There’s that word “spirit”.** When you see that word “spirit”, understand that that is
  - The Greek word is “pneuma” which means wind.
- The Spirit is active in a lot of ways in the Old Testament.
- **Here are a few.**
  - **Bezalel** (Exodus 31:1-4)
  - **The 70 Elders** (Numbers 11:17)
  - **Gideon** (Judges 6:34)
  - **Samson** (Judges 14:6,19; 15:14)
  - **Prophets prophesied when the Spirit of God came on them.** Ex. (1 Chron. 24:20)

One of the things we see in the Old Testament is that the Spirit isn’t filling or indwelling in everyone. Instead, the Spirit “comes upon” or “fills” only specific people for specific acts of service.

## Saul and David

- The Holy Spirit changes Saul and transforms him into a person who can act in power to deliver Israel. **Then Saul disobeys God.**
- **After this act of disobedience this is what Samuel says to him:** (1 Samuel 13:13-14; 16:1)
- **The Spirit departs from Saul to come upon David.**
  - The Spirit coming on David has a profound effect on his relationship with God.
  - His Psalms reflect a personal love relationship with the Lord. Ex. **Psalms 63:1-4**

The personal relationship David has with God is because the Spirit of God has come upon him and he has the presence of the Spirit.

- For David, the God is present in the Holy Spirit and without the Holy Spirit David loses the wonderful intimate relationship he has with God.
  
- ***What is the primary purpose of God putting his Spirit upon selected individuals in the Old Testament?***
- ***What effect does the Spirit seem to have upon their relationship with God?***

## The Spirit on Moses

- This Spirit is *upon* Moses personally, empowering him to lead, but is *with* the people Moses is leading.
- The Holy Spirit is the secret of Moses’ relationship with God and his ability to lead.

## **The Spirit at the Close of the Old Testament Era**

### **Let's divide the eras of the Spirit into three:**

1. Prior to Jesus' ministry.
2. During Jesus' ministry, when the Holy Spirit is upon him.
3. Pentecost and beyond.

- Now, right before the Messiah is revealed, there are several people who have the Spirit upon them in this transition time.
  1. **Mary, Jesus' mother** – Luke 1:35
  2. **Elizabeth**, John the Baptist's mom. (Luke 1:41)
  3. **Zechariah**, John the Baptist's dad. (Luke 1:67)
  4. **John the Baptist** – Luke 1:15
  5. **Simeon** (Luke 2:25-27)
  6. **Anna** (Luke 2:36-38)
- **Summary:** In the Old Testament era, the Holy Spirit comes upon select individuals to empower them to do God's work and to know God intimately.
- **In the Old Covenant, there is *upon* and *with*.**

The Spirit who is "within" Jesus is "with" the disciples while Jesus is on earth. But the Spirit comes to dwell "in" them when Jesus asks the Father to send the Spirit after Jesus' time on earth is ended.

- The Spirit is "**with**" Israel in his Presence among them (tabernacle, ark, pillar of cloud by day, fire by night) and is "**upon**" its leaders like Moses. But the Spirit is **not "In"** all the individuals. That won't happen until Pentecost.
- **During the Old Testament era of the Holy Spirit. There were prophecies of a new era of the Holy Spirit that would come.**
- The first one is about how the Holy Spirit will come upon the Messiah.
  - (Isaiah 11:1-2) (Isaiah 42:1)
  - In Luke 4:21 Jesus says that Isaiah 61:1-2 is fulfilled in Jesus.

### **Old Testament prophecy regarding the Holy Spirit's future ministry.**

- Peter will proclaim that this prophecy was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:16-21) Its from the book of (Joel 2:28-32)
- **Valley of Dry Bones that God brings to life.**
  - (Ezekiel 36:25-27)
  - (Ezekiel 37:14)
- **These prophecies point to a time in the future which is the present for us. The New Covenant.**
- **So, who are the recipients of these promises from Joel and Ezekiel?**